

GORE VIDAL'S CALIGULA

NIGER 030
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PENTHOUSE ROSSELLINI - PRODUCTIONS
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1. INT. CALIGULA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The young man Caligula is screaming in his sleep. The face is - normally - pleasant; the hair is thinning in front but thick in back. The body is slightly built.

Caligula is in bed, naked beneath a sheet. Beside him is his oldest sister Drusilla. The room is typical of a wealthy Roman bedroom of the first century A.D., with beautifully painted walls. A single door leads to an atrium/courtyard. Except for the bed, a chest, a pair of wrought silver lamps, there is no furniture. Curtains on the walls. Caligula's scream awakens Drusilla. She sits up.

Drusilla holds Caligula as if he were still a child. She soothes him.

CALIGULA

(half awake)

He's going to kill me...

DRUSILLA

(crooning)

No...no...you're safe. You are with me.

Silence. Caligula is now wide awake, face covered with sweat. He is breathing hard. He stares for a moment at the ceiling. Then he turns to Drusilla and smiles.

DRUSILLA

Was it the same dream?

CALIGULA

(nods)

At father's funeral...I'm at the doorway to the tomb. The Emperor's there...he picks me up...

Caligula shudders.

DRUSILLA

And then you wake...

CALIGULA

Then I wake up...just when he's going
to kill me...as he killed...

Caligula starts to say "our father" but Drusilla puts her
finger on his lips; indicates they are being spied on.

2. INT. ADJACENT ROOM - NIGHT

The room is dark except for the light from Caligula's room
which shines through a small hole. A Man sits, ear to the
wall, writing down what he hears. But now he stops,
frustrated, unable to hear. He stares through the hole.

materialle scrivere

3. INT. CALIGULA'S BEDROOM -SPY'S POV.

Caligula embraces Drusilla tight, more with a child's
desperation than with lust. Their whispers cannot be over-
heard.

(Note: In this first section of the film (ending with
Tiberius's death), Caligula must appear to be an appealing,
frightened youth...no hint of what he is to become. At worst,
he must seem too adaptable to the moods of Tiberius.)

CALIGULA

(whispers into her hair)

As he killed our father...our mother...
our brothers.

DRUSILLA

(low whisper)

Sh-h-h.

CALIGULA

(matching whisper)

I don't want to die.

DRUSILLA

You won't die. You can't. You're
his heir. There is no one else.

CALIGULA

(still frightened)
There's Gemellus...and Claudius...

DRUSILLA

Gemellus is too young...Claudius is
an idiot.

(very, very softly)
Tiberius is old. You will be emperor
...soon.

CALIGULA

(same soft tone)
And you will be my queen.

Caligula goes to a statue of Isis and feeds the brazier with
incense.

DRUSILLA

You can't marry your sister.

CALIGULA

You can in Egypt...

DRUSILLA

But not in Rome...

CALIGULA

Then we shall move to Alexandria, and
you will be queen of Egypt.

DRUSILLA

Don't be childish...
Anyway...you're already promised...

CALIGULA

Promised?

DRUSILLA

Yes. You're going to marry, Ennia,
Macro's wife. He commands the
Praetorian Guard.

4. CALIGULA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Drusilla smiles and breaks away. As she does so, a bird flies
through the window and beats around the ceiling and walls.
Caligula presses back against the bed in superstitious fear.

Drusilla comes to him.

DRUSILLA

It's only a bird.

Caligula clings to Drusilla.

The bird flies out.

Caligula is holding Drusilla close. He begins playfully to
simulate the sexual act.

CALIGULA

What's it like with your husband?

DRUSILLA

What's what like?

CALIGULA
He's so fat he's disgusting.

DRUSILLA
He's not...He's just large.

CALIGULA
But tiny where it counts.

DRUSILLA
How do you know?

CALIGULA
I saw him at the baths. I felt so sorry
for you.

DRUSILLA
(amused, aroused)
You are vile.

Caligula is now making love to her seriously.

5. INT. ADJACENT ROOM

The spy is wildly excited by the lovemaking he is witnessing,
and masturbates.

6. INT. CALIGULA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT - SPY'S POV

DRUSILLA
(whispers)
You are better.

CALIGULA
Bigger?

DRUSILLA
Oh yes...yes...!

7. INT. CALIGULA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Caligula and Drusilla's lovemaking is interrupted by the clanking sound of Macro and his armed men nearby. Caligula and Drusilla break, both alarmed.

SENTRY (O.S.)

Password?

MACRO (O.S.)

Justice.

SENTRY (O.S.)

Pass.

DRUSILLA

Who's that?

CALIGULA

Macro.

They listen to clattering salutes, the creak of uniforms as soldiers approach. A Servant on the other side of the door speaks in a low voice.

MACRO (O.S.)

Your highness...

Drusilla hides behind a curtain.

Macro enters. His manner is now incongruously exquisite - a born courtier.

MACRO

Forgive me. I'm not interrupting...
am I?

Macro looks about, somewhat puzzled, as he obviously expected to find Caligula with Drusilla.

CALIGULA

Only my dreams.

MACRO
Happy dreams?

CALIGULA
(non-committal)
News from Capri?

MACRO
Yes...just arrived. The Emperor commands
you to wait upon him.

Caligula is apprehensive.

MACRO
We sail at first light.

CALIGULA
(dry mouth)
What does he want?

MACRO
A last look at you, perhaps.
(significantly)
He is seventy-seven.

CALIGULA
May he live forever.

Macro studies Caligula for a second - both men are nervous.

MACRO
Ennia is there waiting for you.

CALIGULA
How is she?

MACRO
In love...

CALIGULA
In hell then, as the poet says.

MACRO

She won't be happy till she sees you
in Capri.

Macro goes out. Drusilla comes from behind the curtain.

CALIGULA

What does it mean...this summons?

DRUSILLA

Take care, little boots.

CALIGULA

Pray to Isis for me.

Caligula embraces Drusilla.

8. EXT. TIBERIUS'S VILLA - DAY

The villa is on a steep rocky cliff facing the Sorrentine peninsula. The view is spectacular.
There is a sense of remoteness about the villa, an isolation from reality...

9. EXT. TIBERIUS'S VILLA - DAY

Macro and Caligula, accompanied by some slaves, approach the villa. Before the entrance some petitioners are waiting.

MACRO

You have nothing to fear.

CALIGULA

With Tiberius there is always something to fear.

MACRO

As long as I command the Guards you're safe.

Caligula gives him a swift sidelong glance.

On the steps stands Nerva, an elderly Senator. Nerva is a somewhat villainous-looking man which is nature's tedious way of compensation:

Nerva's character is most noble.

Macro and Caligula come near to the steps.

MACRO

Watch out for him.

Caligula goes forward and is greeted by Nerva on the steps, Nerva, holding out both hands, and Caligula taking them and squeezing them.

CALIGULA

(effusive)

Nerva, dear friend. Ten years is a long time for the Emperor to be hidden away.

NERVA

I should be a great deal happier if he were back in Rome where he belongs.

10. INT. TIBERIUS'S VILLA - DAY - ALBA. *Wood. QUARTI DI CARNE*

The two men enter the villa, past a loggia of armed men, and walk down corridors, through gardens and courtyards. Caligula is deeply impressed by the slaves and soldiers at every turn. His appetite is wakening.

CALIGULA

Tell me, Nerva. How is the Emperor?

NERVA

Old. Like me.

CALIGULA

I mean...how is he?

NERVA

His mood?

CALIGULA

Yes.

NERVA

Like the weather.

CALIGULA

(looks at the sky)

The weather is good...today.

NERVA

But changeable.

Nerva stops at the edge of a courtyard. He turns to Caligula.
Looks at him hard.

NERVA

I have heard that in the last month
seven of my colleagues in the Senate
have been put to death. For treason.

CALIGULA

Nine, to be exact. And five of them
cheated. They killed themselves.
That wasn't playing fair...Don't you
agree, Nerva?

NERVA

(sadly)

They were good men.

CALIGULA

(carefully)

If they were good men, why did their

CALIGULA (cont'd)
emperor, my beloved grandfather and
your friend, find them guilty?

This is too much, even for a courtier.

NERVA
You have a gift for logic, Prince.

11. EXT. POOL - GARDEN - DAY

Caligula approaches the pool.
What looks to be some sort of sea monster approaches beneath
the water. Then, with a roar, Tiberius surfaces and stands
erect, water up to his shoulders. He wears a tunic. There is
a sticking plaster across the bridge of his eczematous nose.

TIBERIUS
(cheerily)
Caligula.

Tiberius extends his hand. Caligula kisses it. Caligula's
manner with Tiberius is eager, boyish, sycophantish. He will
do anything to please.

CALIGULA
My Lord...beloved grandfather...Great
Caesar.

During this what look to be two large fish are swimming about
Tiberius. One vanishes under the old man's tunic; the other
frolics about his legs.

TIBERIUS
Do your dance, boy...

CALIGULA
(taken aback)
My dance?

TIBERIUS

Yes. The one you were famous for.
When you were the darling of your
father's troops. Come on, little
boots.

CALIGULA

But...but I've forgotten it...Lord...

Tiberius claps his hands.

TIBERIUS

Dance! Dance! Dance!

Caligula begins the military dance - in a mood of rage and determination. Nerva and Macro watch impassively. Suddenly the two fish surface. One is a ten year old boy, the other is a ten year old girl.

TIBERIUS

(fondly)

My little fish. My minnows.

(gestures at large)

All right. Come on, the rest of you!

From behind the bushes and out of the grotto appear a dozen naked prepubescent Boys and Girls. Laughing and giggling they dive into the water and begin to play with the old man's legs and genitals beneath the tunic. Tiberius is delighted. A happy mood. There are some wet nurses breast feeding with their enormous tits two/three month old babies.

Caligula is still dancing.

Tiberius reaches up to climb from the bath.

TIBERIUS

Your arm...

From the side of the pool, Claudius jumps up to assist, staggers forward and falls flat on his face. He is Caligula's uncle, fat and semiparalized.

Caligula stops dancing and helps Tiberius out of the pool. Tiberius sits in the wet tunic on the edge of the pool. One arm encircles a Boy, and the other a Girl. Tiberius shouts to the rest.

TIBERIUS

All right, little fish. Back to your aquarium.

The children get out of the water and run off. Tiberius continues to fondle the two Children in his arms. Absently, he strikes them as though they were pet animals.

TIBERIUS

Sit down, Caligula.

Caligula sits beside Tiberius, his legs and feet in the water just like the emperor's. During this a slave pours out a beaker of wine for Tiberius. Nothing is offered Caligula. A clue to Tiberius's irritable nature is that he is an alcoholic. Either he is getting drunk, drunk or hung over. As a result his moods tend to shift erratically. He suffers from prostatitis and drips organic matter all along his way. A slave follows him and cleans up the discharge Tiberius leaves behind.

TIBERIUS

Do you love me?

CALIGULA

Yes, my Lord.

TIBERIUS

Then why do you say such terrible things about me in Rome?

CALIGULA

I don't, Caesar. Ever.

TIBERIUS

I hear that you often pray for my death.

CALIGULA

By Heaven, Caesar...I swear I do not.

TIBERIUS

Not in public...

CALIGULA

No. Never.

TIBERIUS

Always remember...I've let you live...

(smiles)

...so far...

Tiberius has now got the Boy across his lap. He tickles the Boy's genitals. The Boy shivers. The Girl giggles.

He replaces the Boy with the Girl. He fondles her intimately: she wriggles at his touch.

TIBERIUS

I do my best to protect their innocence.
It is the least I can do in this foul
world...

(suddenly dumps both Children into
the pool).

Off with you.

TIBERIUS

(to Nerva)

Nerva, stop scowling at us. And help me
transform this young barbarian into a
Roman Caesar.

NERVA

There have been three Roman Caesars.
Which do you want him to be? Julius?
Augustus? Or yourself?

TIBERIUS

The best one, of course.

NERVA

That would be your father, Augustus.

Nerva leaves the pool.

TIBERIUS

(to Caligula)

See how I am insulted in my own house.
I am old, Caligula.

CALIGULA

Yes, Lord...but you will live forever.

TIBERIUS

Of all my family, all that are left now
are you and the child Gemellus... and
Claudius, of course, your poor dear
uncle...

Claudius is dozing by the side of the pool.

TIBERIUS

(shakes his head sadly)

All the others are gone... Struck down.
By fate.

(pointedly)

And it is fate, Caligula, that rules us.
Not the gods.

CALIGULA

But you are a god, Caesar.

TIBERIUS

(sharply)

No. None of that. Not even when I'm dead.

CALIGULA

But Julius Caesar and Augustus
Ceasar...they are gods now.

TIBERIUS

So say the Senate...and so the
people believe. Such myths are
useful.

Caligula helps the old man to his feet. Tiberius towers over
him.

TIBERIUS

Little boots...Just look at you.

CALIGULA

Yes, Ceasar?

Tiberius embraces him and then holds him at arm's length, look-
ing at him.

TIBERIUS

(fondly)

I am nursing a viper in Rome's bosom.

Claudius hears this and nods in eager agreement, his mouth
dribbling.

TIBERIUS

Macro.

Macro springs to his side.

MACRO

Ceasar.

TIBERIUS

Throw that wretch into the pool.

Macro throws Claudius into the water.

12. EXT. VILLA GARDENS - DAY

Woods, grottoes, a most sylvan rustic effect...like a painting. At first Tiberius and Caligula seem to be alone as they stroll through the gardens. Camera with them.

TIBERIUS

What do they say of me in Rome?

CALIGULA

They miss you, Lord... and they need you.

TIBERIUS

I have done my best for my people
...I have given them my life. I
have...

Tiberius pauses at a grotto containing three beautiful adolescents. Two girls and a boy. The boy has the horns, tail and cloven hooves of a satyr. The girls are got up as nymphs. They pose like statues for the emperor.

TIBERIUS

(interrupting himself)
Lovely, aren't they?

CALIGULA

Yes, Caesar.

TIBERIUS

The satyr is from Illyria...

Tiberius is now walking among the three adolescents as if they were indeed statues, feeling their bodies. Caligula touches one of the nymphs delicately but hesitantly... grandfather's property.

TIBERIUS
(curiously)
You prefer nymphs to satyrs?

CALIGULA
(quickly)
I like both.

TIBERIUS
One needs both...to keep healthy.
The nymphs are from...from...

NYMPH
(softly)
Britain, Lord.

CALIGULA
Speaking statues...

TIBERIUS
They can do more than speak.

Tiberius claps his hands and the three proceed to make love for him in the most intricate fashion. A Slave appears from nowhere to fill Tiberius's **cup**. As Tiberius and Caligula watch with pleasure, the conversation continues.

TIBERIUS
Never forget that Rome is a republic
and that you and I are simply plain
citizens, like any other.
(strokes the **puttocks** of the Satyr,
to Satyr).
A little more conviction, please.

The Satyr becomes frenzied in his copulation.

TIBERIUS
That's better.

Tiberius walks on through the gardens.

A Grove where this time two black satyrs and a white nymph
disport for Tiberius and Caligula.

TIBERIUS
(indicates one of the blacks)
I think he's the best of my stallions.
(to Caligula)
Serve the State well even though the
people in it are wicked beasts.

CALIGULA
But they love you, Lord.

TIBERIUS
No. They fear me. And that is better
than love.

Tiberius turns to the Nymph who is having difficulty receiving the Black.

TIBERIUS
You can take it all. But you must relax.
That's right. Don't be so...precious.
(turns to Caligula)
I had no choice, Caligula.

CALIGULA
No choice?

Tiberius fondles the two Black Youths.

13. EXT. DAY - ANOTHER PART OF THE PARK

Then Tiberius leads Caligula, Camera with them, to a grove where a half dozen young Men and Women perform sexually. The effect is like a ballet: each gesture perfect, as if rehearsed. Tiberius and Caligula wander among the orgiasts, occasionally touching...always watching. The following dialogue is intercut with every variety of sexual activity.

TIBERIUS

I never wanted to be emperor. All I wanted was a private life. But I had to become emperor...

CALIGULA

(genuinely curious)

Why did you...have to become emperor?

TIBERIUS

(off hand)

To save my life. Had someone else become emperor, I would have been killed.

As you will be...

Caligula is petrified at the use of tense. **FUTURE**

CALIGULA

Will be, grandfather?

TIBERIUS

Would be, if you were not my heir.

As they move toward the villa, Nymphs and Satyrs present themselves for inspection. Also dwarfs, hunchbacks, midgets.

TIBERIUS

When Rome was just a city and we were all citizens...known to one another... why, we had to be good, frugal, dignified. But then we conquered the earth.

A naked hermaphrodite presents itself to Tiberius.

TIBERIUS (O.S.)

Amazing, isn't it? Cost me a fortune.

Both boy...

(pulls the creature's penis)

...and girl.

(fondles the breasts)

Lucky creature.

Caligula and Tiberius continue through the glades of Monsters, camera with them.

TIBERIUS

We stole for ourselves the wealth of the world. And look at us! The Romans I rule are not what they were. No. They lust for money, pleasure, other men's wives. Yes! I am a true moralist. And stern as any Cato. Unfortunately, fate chose me to govern swine. So in my old age I have become a swineherd.

14. EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE PARK - DAY

Caligula and Tiberius relax.

Nerva approaches with some slaves.

NERVA

Caesar, may I present the documents for your signature?

TIBERIUS

Ah, good old friend, yes. Of course.

A slave appears to fill Tiberius's cup but Tiberius, only slightly the worse for wine, motions him away. The work of empire requires a clear head. Tiberius stands as the slaves hold the table level with his chest. Nerva hands him a document.

MATERIALE DA SCRIVERE

NERVA

The revised list of candidates for
the equestrian order.

Tiberius glances at the document. Then he pronounces the
imperial formula as he signs:

TIBERIUS

I, Tiberius Caesar, command in the
name...

(stamps document with the huge
seal ring on his left hand)

...of the Senate and the people of
Rome.

Caligula is impressed and fascinated by the whole procedure
and by the power implicit in the documents.
He manages to touch the documents and passes one to Tiberius,
who watches with amusement.

NERVA

Tax assessments. For Asia Minor.
Raetia and Gaul.

Tiberius works quickly, signing and sealing and intoning.

TIBERIUS

I Tiberius Caesar command in the name
of the Senate and the people of Rome..

NERVA

(coldly)

Senators allegedly guilty of treason.

Tiberius gives him a quick look; signs, seals, intones.

TIBERIUS

The Senate is the natural enemy of any
Caesar. Every senator thinks of himself
as a potential Caesar. Therefore every
senator is guilty of treason in thought
if not in deed.

Tiberius indicates a row of mummies in senatorial garb.

TIBERIUS

As they were once...Look at them,
Caligula. Do you remember any of
them?

CALIGULA

No, Caesar.

TIBERIUS

I remember them all. I keep my memory
fresh by looking at them every day.
Traitors...who thought they could
replace me! Ha...and yet, you know
the Senate offered to approve any law
I made before I made it. Imagine. So
I said to them, what if I go mad? What
then? No answer. They were born to be
slaves. Never forget that, Germanicus.

~~4~~ Caligula is startled by Tiberius's slip of the tongue.

NERVA

This is not Germanicus, Lord. It is his
son, Caligula.

TIBERIUS

(irritably)

I know who it is. And Heaven help Rome
when I'm gone.

Caligula looks as harmless as possible.

Tiberius turns to Nerva.

TIBERIUS

Watch out for Macro when I am dead.

NERVA

Macro hates me.

TIBERIUS

Because you are wise...because you
are good. So when I am gone...beware.

NERVA

(Wryly)

I have taken precautions, Caesar.

TIBERIUS

(sweetly to Caligula)

Macro is your friend now, isn't he?

CALIGULA

(nervously)

Lord, he serves you and only you.

TIBERIUS

His wife too seems friendly. How is
she in bed?

CALIGULA

We must ask Macro that, Lord. She
seems friendly...

TIBERIUS

And your sister Drusilla?

CALIGULA

My sister is...my sister.

TIBERIUS

I know everything that's said...done...
(long look at Caligula)
...thought...

A shy adolescent appears. It is Gemellus. Tiberius looks at
him.

TIBERIUS

Gemellus...Come here, lovely boy. At least you are too young to plot against me.

(puts his arm around the boy's waist)

Well, not too young perhaps.

Tiberius is now deeply maudlin with drink and self-pity.

TIBERIUS

The others...they're all alike. They desert the setting sun...

(touches his own chest dramatically)

...for the rising...

(points to Caligula)

...sun.

TIBERIUS

(to Gemellus)

My last grandson...kiss your old grandfather.

CALIGULA

I am your grandson too, Caesar.

TIBERIUS

Only by adoption.

(kisses Gemellus)

This is the last of my line. Oh, lovely boy! What. What will become of you?

Tiberius hugs the boy.

CALIGULA

He is like a brother to me, Lord.

TIBERIUS

(chuckles)

A brother? You know what that means in our family. Murder. Brother against

TIBERIUS (cont'd)
brother. Father against son. One by one
all have been swept away. By fate...

NERVA
Not by fate. By you, Tiberius.

TIBERIUS
(sudden rage)
What?
(then recovers himself)
Ah yes, Nerva. You are right, I was
overstating my case. But it is true,
old friend; that fate has given me
the absolute power of life and death.

Tiberius claps his hands; a slave selects a cup full of wine.
Tiberius gives the cup to Caligula.

TIBERIUS
Drink, Caligula.

Caligula offers the cup to Gemellus.

CALIGULA
After you, brother.

Gemellus takes the cup and lifts it to his mouth.
Tiberius takes the cup from him and instructs the slave to
drink it. The slave drinks and drops dead. Tears begin at the
corners of Tiberius's eyes. He pulls Gemellus to him and
strokes the boy's hair fondly.

TIBERIUS
(softly, sadly)
Poor boy. When I am gone, Caligula

TIBERIUS (cont'd)
will kill you.

CALIGULA
Caesar, I swear...

TIBERIUS
But then...
(a slow smile)
...someone will kill Caligula.
Unless of course Caligula should die
before I do. You do look rather pasty,
I must say. Not at all well.

15. INT. CALIGULA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Slaves are shaving Caligula.
Macro appears at the door, bringing Ennia with him.
Caligula dismisses the slaves. Puts out his arm to welcome
Ennia and looks past her at Macro. Macro nods and turns away.
Ennia comes in.

ENNIA
Now you are a man, Caligula...What are
you going to do?

Caligula does not answer.

ENNIA
You must be the master of your own
destiny...take it with both hands.

Ennia nears and somewhat offers herself to him.
Caligula embraces her and caresses her tits - he touches her
nipples and then suddenly squeezes. Ennia screams.
Her scream merges with the sound of people crying. ★
Caligula listens, releases Ennia, gets up.
Canera with him as he goes out and traces the sound.

16. INT. BATH - NIGHT

Caligula enters a tiled room. Nerva is lying in a small sunken pool of hot water, his head resting on the tiled edge. Two slaves in attendance, distraught and wailing. Towering over them, the forbidding figure of Tiberius.

TIBERIUS

(shouts)

Bind his wrists!

STOFFA

The slaves tear strips of cloth from a cloak but Nerva stops them.

NERVA

No.

TIBERIUS

No? How dare you? How can you leave me like this? My oldest, dearest friend...

NERVA

Because I am your oldest, your dearest friend, I am leaving you...like this.

TIBERIUS

Why?

NERVA

To choose the hour of one's death... that's the closest a man ever comes to tricking fate...

TIBERIUS

Well, I'll trick you. I'll stop this.

(to slaves)

Hurry.

The slaves approach Nerva who motions for them to step back. They are frozen in their tracks.

NERVA

I have lived long enough, Tiberius.
And I hate my life.

TIBERIUS

Why?

NERVA

You ask me? One by one I have watched
you murder your family, your friends,
the best men of Rome.

Tiberius turns swiftly on the two slaves.

TIBERIUS

Out!

The slaves scramble from the room. Meanwhile Caligula watches
the dying man with fascination. And listens, with fear.

NERVA

We were friends years ago.

TIBERIUS

We are. We are.

NERVA

Whatever we are...or were...you will
follow me soon.

TIBERIUS

(quickly, suspiciously)
How do you know?

NERVA

With you gone, Macro will kill me.

TIBERIUS

I shall arrest him. Will that please you?
I shall have him executed. Treason.

NERVA

You cannot control him. But he can control

NERVA (cont'd)
 you. Anyway, even if Macro were dead,
 how am I to live with this?

Nerva points contemptuously at Caligula.

The usual sycophantish sweetness of Caligula's expression is
 for an instant replaced by a mask-like hardness.

TIBERIUS
 (to Caligula)
 You will always respect my friend, won't
 you?

CALIGULA
 (all sweetness, humility)
 I have always respected him...as I honour
 his loyalty and wisdom.

TIBERIUS
 (to Nerva)
 You hear that?

NERVA
 Tiberius, you were...once...modest,
 learned, wise.

TIBERIUS
 Don't taunt me. I know I'm old, I forget..

NERVA
 I have watched you become a monster.

CALIGULA
 That is treason, Nerva.

NERVA
 That is truth.

TIBERIUS
 I am...I have always been...surrounded
 by enemies...In my own family...in the

TIBERIUS (cont'd)

Senate. You are cruel...

NERVA

Not cruel...honest. If power was able to destroy the mind and character of my old friend Tiberius, what will power do to this ignorant boy, brought up in army camps, taught nothing but how to be your slave?

TIBERIUS

Caligula serves me well.

NERVA

Dying men can sometimes see the future.
(indicates Caligula)

The best of slaves will be the worst of masters. So from evils past, and evils yet to come, I now escape.

Tiberius stands dumbly. Tears shine in his eyes.

TIBERIUS

(softly)

You have hurt me.

NERVA

Goodbye.

Tiberius reaches out a hand as though to bestow a blessing or receive comfort.

TIBERIUS

You...you...

Tiberius sways forward and seizes the side of the bath.

TIBERIUS

(gasping)

Nerva...

Nerva has closed his eyes and his body slips down a little

into the red-stained bath.

TIBERIUS

(a cry)

Nerva!

Tiberius looks as if he is about to collapse. Caligula goes to help him but Tiberius brushes him aside, straightens up. Then goes out.

CALIGULA

Nerva...

Nerva keeps his eyes shut and doesn't reply, but his hand moves slightly on the edge of the bath.

CALIGULA

(low voice)

What's it like?

NERVA

(sleepily)

Warm...

CALIGULA

I don't mean the bath.

Caligula squats down beside Nerva's head which rests on the tiles. He stares with intense interest at the pale face, like a scientist observing an experiment.

NERVA

No pain. Just...drifting away...that's all.

CALIGULA

Do you see her?

NERVA

Her,...

CALIGULA
The goddess. Isis...

NERVA
(suddenly opening his eyes)
So you are one of those...

CALIGULA
Do you see her?

NERVA
No.

Nerva closes his eyes again.

CALIGULA
Are you sure?

Caligula touches Nerva's forehead.

CALIGULA
You're almost dead. What's happening
to you now?

NERVA
Nothing.

CALIGULA
You're lying! You can see her. I know
you can. Tell. Come on. Quick. Before
you go. What is she like?

NERVA
There is nothing...only...sleep...

CALIGULA
Liar!

Caligula puts his hand on Nerva's shoulder and pushes him
violently down into the water reddened with blood. Caligula
hurries from the room.

2 AGOSTO

Teatro 5

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17 EXT. COLONNADE - DAWN

Caligula is pacing about the colonnade and amphitheatre. It is dawn; slaves' activity begins, the palace starts its busy daily life.

Caligula is fascinated and impressed by the variety of activities; slaves sweeping and cleaning, and tending the gardens; doing laundrywork, treading, pressing and rinsing clothes; others preparing food, men cutting meat and fish, women making such foods as cheese and pickles. Soldiers putting on armour, sentries being relieved.

Slaves gossip and quarrel. Caligula overhears snatches of conversation.

SLAVE 1

(senile and deformed)

Nerva's death came as a terrible shock to Tiberius.

SLAVE 2

Yes, I hear the old bastard was left partly paralyzed.

SLAVE 3

What's going to happen to us if he dies?

SLAVE 2

We'll get drunk for a week celebrating.

SLAVE 3

Tiberius has been all right to us.

SLAVE 2

He's been a bastard.

SLAVE 3

The bigger the bastard, the better for us.

SLAVE 2

You creep.

SAULTA FACCI'CI
SCHIAN' d
fissano Calig.

SLAVE 3
Take that back!

The slaves start fighting.
Caligula moves on.

HAREH

②

SLAVE 4
(handsome young man)
He's sick...he's a pervert!

SLAVE 5
Oh, grow up...

SLAVE 4
You know what he did? He filled my mouth
with ice...and made me suck him.

SLAVE 5
You're lucky...he fancies you.

SLAVE 4
How would you like it?

SLAVE 5
I'd love it. Listen...you look after him
and he'll look after you.

Sclerans
Ma' W
Feminas
e Suardana
Caligula

③

HAREH

In the gardens Caligula sees the Satyr and one of the Nymphs
lying on the grass. The Nymph is stroking the Satyr's face
with a leaf. He laughs, caresses her, and they kiss tenderly.
C.U. Caligula's face as his imperial ambition crystallises.

MACRO (o.s.)

The physician Charicles, Prince.

9
ZONA
MUNNIO

Caligula is joined by Macro, who is with a slender, elderly
man - Charicles the physician.

CALIGULA
How long do you think?

CHARICLES
Well...it could happen any moment now
...or with care, he might last a year
or so.

CALIGULA
Only a year?

Charicles bows, hurries off. Camera with Caligula and Macro as
they walk past the cases containing the Senators' Mummies.

CALIGULA
I can smell death on him now. But whose
death?

MACRO
Don't worry...He can do nothing without
me.

CALIGULA
So others thought. And where are they?
He's planning something...

Macro stops.

MACRO
You will be Emperor soon.

CALIGULA
You swear it?

MACRO
I swear.

18. INT. TIBERIUS'S BEDROOM - DAY

Claudius sits on the floor playing dice and cheating himself.
Charicles attends to Tiberius, who is lying in bed looking

very pale and seeming to be barely breathing. In the background are two of Tiberius's personal slaves, and Gemellus. Macro and Caligula at the bedside, watching intently. Tiberius suddenly exhales breath, making the sound of the 'death rattle'. Charicles feels for the pulse in the throat. He looks up at Caligula and Macro. Caligula just about manages to conceal his excitement and his impatience.

Charicles shakes his head gloomily. Macro immediately orders everyone from the room, with a wave of his hand. Ushers them out, leaving only Caligula.

Caligula looks down at Tiberius and at the ring on his finger. Reaches out his hand to the emperor's chest; feels his heart. Leans down and puts his ear to Tiberius's mouth.

Caligula straightens up.

CALIGULA

Tiberius.
 (silence)
 Tiberius...
 (silence)
 Tiberius...

Caligula looks down at the emperor for a second. He lifts Tiberius's hand to take off the Imperial ring. But the hand is clenched tight - Caligula can't open it. Caligula uses all his strength to prize the fingers apart. Finally he succeeds and takes off the ring. Puts it on his own finger. Does a few steps of his dance. Suddenly stops and turns to Tiberius.

We see Tiberius. The eyes open. He looks at Caligula. He pulls himself up on the pillow. Notices that the ring is no longer on his hand.

TIBERIUS

Caligula...

Like a man who has heard a ghost, Caligula whirls around.

CALIGULA
(face ashen)
Lord...

TIBERIUS
(full command)
Give me the ring.

For an instant Caligula simply stares. Then glances around at the door.

CALIGULA
(softly)
No.

TIBERIUS
Yes.

Caligula approaches the bed. Draws his dagger.
Tiberius does not shrink.

TIBERIUS
You haven't the nerve.

Caligula raises the dagger to strike.

TIBERIUS
(shouts)
Guards!

Caligula freezes. Macro hurries in.

MACRO
No, Caligula.

Tiberius tries to lift himself up from the bed. Macro picks up the pillow and shoves it over Tiberius's face.

Tiberius struggles but it is soon over. Macro lifts the pillow and then slips in beath Tiberius's head. Tiberius's open mouth records the last struggle for breath. Macro takes the dagger and replaces it in its sheath.

MACRO

No blood...

CALIGULA

Are you sure?

Macro puts a mirror to Tiberius's mouth. Shows the clear surface to Caligula.

MACRO

(softly, smiling)

Hail, Caesar.

CALIGULA

(unsmiling)

Hail, Caesar.

MACRO

I'll get everyone assembled in the hall for the announcement.

Caligula hardly seems to hear him. Macro gives a salute, smiling, and goes out.

Caligula looks at the dead Tiberius. Goes to a mirror and looks at himself wearing the ring. In the mirror he sees a head peeping out from a row of statues.

CALIGULA

Gemellus.

Gemellus comes out from behind a statue. Approaches Caligula and, terrified, drops to his knee.

GEMELLUS

(whispers)

Hail Caesar...

Gemellus kisses the ring on Caligula's hand.

CALIGULA

Gemellus.

Caligula pulls the boy to his feet. Embraces him.

CALIGULA

We are alone now. We must love each other.



EXT. AUGUSTUS'S MAUSOLEUM - DAY

Imperial funeral. Caligula stands with his sister Drusilla on the platform at the tomb's entrance. The crowd is silent, not daring to express their hatred of the old emperor in the presence of their splendid new sovereign. A mime is miming Tiberius's vices. As the masked figures pass, Caligula grows more and more tense.

CALIGULA

(whispers)

It's like the dream.

At that moment, in the procession a Figure wearing Tiberius's death mask appears.

Face hideous, as in the moment of suffocation.

Caligula. Sweat starts on his face. He trembles. He is totally disoriented.

CALIGULA

(muttering)

Isis...goddess...save me.

DRUSILLA

It's only a mask.

CALIGULA

It's the dream.

41. (11/7/74)

DRUSILLA

No. You're awake. And he's really dead.
You are Caesar now.

CALIGULA

(with wonder)

Caesar...

DRUSILLA

You are the Emperor of Rome... Lord of the world.

CALIGULA

(slowly)

If I am the Lord of the world, then I am
the Lord of dreams.

(smiles)

I like this dream.

The shadows have past. He knows exactly who he is and where
he is.

The crowd is now shouting in unison over and over the syllables
of his name:

CROWD

Ca-li-gu-la.

A radiant ecstatic smile lights up his face.

20. INT. SENATE - DAY

The Senate house is crowded with Senators in their togas.
Caligula stands beneath the Statue of Victory in the apse of
the Senate. Caligula enjoys his own performance, varying his
tone of voice dramatically: a good orator,

CALIGULA

For twenty three years Tiberius was our
father. And we, all of us, were his
children.

Camera pans about the Senate chamber. Close at hand: Drusilla: all in mourning. Drusilla's face is solemn but she is plainly delighted. Macro stands to Caligula's left. He, too, is well pleased... as is Ennia with a group of Noble Ladies at the other hand of the chamber, and Chaerea at the door to the chamber. In fact, everyone is delighted with the new sovereign.

Caligula has managed to work himself to tears.

CALIGULA

When he was dying, he begged me to
continue his work...

Caligula has his hand up the back of Drusilla's dress. From outside the Senate chamber a man's voice is heard:

MAN (O.S.)

To the Tiber with Tiberius! Throw
him in the river!

There is a gasp in the Senate chamber. Caligula has heard. But he continues.

CALIGULA

All those who have been exiled from
Rome, I do now recall.

Caligula voice is drowned out with hysterical cheering from the Senate. Caligula raises his voice and there is silence.

CALIGULA

I grant a general amnesty...

Cheers again drown out his voice.

MACRO

Silence! Great Caesar is not finished.

Caligula and Drusilla exchange glances at this interruption.

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43

The room is immediately quiet.

CALIGULA

☆ We begin a new era. Old quarrels
are to be forgotten. Old fears
are to be put at rest.

A happy murmur from the assemblage.

CALIGULA

At the insistence of the Senate and
the people of Rome, I accept, humbly
the highest office of the Republic,
the Consulship.

Discreet applause.

He whispers something into Drusilla's ear. The two giggle.

CALIGULA

As my fellow consul, the Senate and
the people of Rome have chosen my
beloved and wise uncle Claudius...

A slight inadvertent gasp, followed by sycophantish applause.
Caligula keeps a straight face during this.

Claudius is a nervous, rather oafish middle-aged man, with an
unpleasant habit of drooling when excited. He also stammers.
He is open mouthed now. Stunned.

CALIGULA

Claudius...

Come take your place beside me.

Claudius plunges forward in the direction of the dais; he
nearly falls.

Claudius is now on the dais, cringing and drooling.

CLAUDIUS

Caesar... Caligula... I mean Consul...

Claudius farts twice.

Suddenly Claudius gives a shriek of hysterical laughter. There is a responding laugh from the room. Caligula cast a cold eye upon the Assemblage. There is silence. Then Caligula extends his hand and Claudius kisses it. Looks for a chair. Finds none. He steps back into the apse, trying to become invisible.

CALIGULA

In accordance with the wishes of my beloved predecessor, I herewith adopt as my son and heir, the Prince Gemellus.

Gemellus smiles nervously.

CALIGULA (O.S.)

Come forward, my son.

Gemellus is taken into Caligula's arms briefly. Then he stands at Caligula's right.

CALIGULA

I now make legal the worship of the goddess Isis...

CALIGULA

All official oaths will contain the phrase, "I will not value my life or that of my children less highly than I do the safety of the Emperor and of his sister Drusilla".

Pan about the room as this highly irregular oath is duly registered.

As the Assemblage disperses, Macro moves close to Caligula.

MACRO

We must take care of Gemellus.

CALIGULA

Gemellus? Yes. We will take care of him.

CUT TO:

21. INT. CALIGULA'S BEDROOM

The room is only a bit larger than Caligula's original palace bedroom. In one corner there is a shrine to the child Caligula. On a frame is the miniature army uniform he wore, including the two little boots. Drusilla lies on the bed, fully clothed. Caligula wears a tunic. He is in a manic good mood.

(Note: During this second section of the film (ending with Drusilla's death) the frightened, sycophantish boy of the first part is replaced by a splendidly good humored emperor, eager to be not only good but loved...only a hint here and there of the tyrant to be).

CALIGULA

How did I do?

DRUSILLA

You got away with it.

CALIGULA

Did you see their faces when I told them that they had to swear not only to me but to you?

DRUSILLA

(amused)

They must have been appalled

CALIGULA

I hope so.

DRUSILLA

But is it wise?

Caligula hops onto the bed beside her. He kisses her. He kisses her breast.

CALIGULA

I can do...

(kisses her again)

...anything...

(a kiss)

...I like

(a kiss)

CALIGULA (cont'd)

...to anyone.

The boyish face does not lose its charming expression. But Drusilla is suitably chilled.

DRUSILLA

Well don't start with me.

Caligula rolls away from her. Stands.

CALIGULA

(smiling)

Who would you suggest?

Drusilla can't quite fathom how serious he is being.
Caligula goes out.
Drusilla goes to the hole.

DRUSILLA

(whisper)

Macro.

CALIGULA

Macro? You don't trust him?

DRUSILLA

Didn't he kill Tiberius?

Caligula comes back into the bedroom. He's no longer playing games, but deadly serious.

CALIGULA

My safety depends on the Praetorian Guards. I must appoint a Commander of my own choice. Who can I trust?

DRUSILLA

Chaerea.

CALIGULA

A Stoic?

(laughs)

But Chaerea is so boring...so old-fashioned.

DRUSILLA

Perfect.

Caligula cups her face in his hands, looks into her eyes.

CALIGULA

Yes, you're right. I'll do it for Rome.
I'll do anything for Rome.

Caligula smiles, kisses her.

DRUSILLA

You'll make a memorable emperor.

CALIGULA

(sweetly)

I know. Isn't Rome lucky?

They start playing as two children.
Chaerea appears.

CALIGULA

Ah...Chaerea.

CHAEREA

Two senators beg to see you, Caesar.
They have a dispute over land...if you
are interested.

CALIGULA

I am interested in all that is Rome...
even down to the length of the toga.
Bring them in.

Drusilla watches as Caligula adopts a formal official manner.
Chaerea ushers in two senators. The first in carries a huge
stack of documents, the second only a few.

FIRST SENATOR

Caesar, I must complain about the
boundary...

CALIGULA

Give me the documents.

Caligula holds out his hands with palms upwards.
Chaerea places the slim set of documents in the left palm,
the thick set in the right.
Caligula stands weighing the documents - mimicking the scales
of justice.

CALIGULA

(to second senator)
The case is proven in your favour.

SECOND SENATOR

Oh thank you...Thank you, Caesar.

CALIGULA

Do not thank me. Justice must always
be impersonal and, impartial. That is
so Chaerea, is it not?

chaerea

Yes, Caesar.

CALIGULA

You may go.

Chaerea returns the documents to the senators and ushers them
out - the First Senator looking bewildered and furious, the

Second Senator beaming. Caligula winks at Drusilla, who is trying not to laugh.

22. EXT. STADIUM - DAY

Caligula inspects the ranks of the Praetorian Guard. With him are Macro, Longinus and Chærea.

CALIGULA
A superb display, Macro.

MACRO
(gratified)
Caesar...

CALIGULA
Fetch Gemellus.

Macro is surprised.

MACRO
What...here?

CALIGULA
Here...Now.

Macro smiles and goes off with two soldiers.
Caligula carries on with his inspection.

CALIGULA
(to Longinus)
I want a bonus for the Guards.

LONGINUS
But Caesar...the Imperial Budget...

CALIGULA
You're the Treasurer...You arrange it.

Caligula is still passing down the lines, looking critically at each man's turn-out, looking into a soldier's face, nodding approval - doing a real inspection.

LONGINUS

But Caesar...the Palace Banquets...
they cost a quarter of a million
sesterces...

CALIGULA

A quarter of a million? Put everyone
on a diet! Issue an edict.

LONGINUS

Yes, Lord. But the deficit...

CALIGULA

How much is my purse?

LONGINUS

(confused, nervous)
Well...Lord...as much as you may require..

Caligula stands before the massed Guards.

CALIGULA

(powerful voice)

To celebrate the beginning of our
reign...to each and every member of
the Praetorian Guard, five gold pieces.

A roar of delight from the Guards. Longinus looks shocked.

CALIGULA

(dryly to Longinus)

Take it out of my salary.

As the Guards are cheering Macro arrives followed by two
soldiers holding the terrified Gemellus. Macro looks from the
cheering Guards to the emperor with great satisfaction.

MACRO

(makes a signal)

Silence.

The Guards stand rigidly in silence.
Caligula comes close to Gemellus, who is trembling with fear.

CALIGULA
(loud and clear)
Who killed Tiberius?

Gemellus is paralysed with fear and is unable to speak. The Guards watch and listen intently.

CALIGULA
(a shriek)
Who killed Tiberius?

GEMELLUS
He did. Macro.

Caligula swings round dramatically and shouts, pointing at Macro:

CALIGULA
Murderer! Arrest him!

But the Guards are stunned. Nobody moves. For a moment it seems that Caligula has overplayed his hand. Caligula places his hand on Chaerea's shoulder.

CALIGULA
In honour of your new Commander...
Chaerea...Ten gold pieces to every
man!

The Guards roar with delight.

CALIGULA
(points at Macro)
Arrest him!

The Guards surge forward, surrounding Macro, and drag him away. Chaerea is in control.

Caligula puts his arm around Gemellus, who is still white and shaken, and comforts him.

24. INT. LOGGIA OF CALIGULA'S BEDROOM.

Side by side on a divan lie Caligula and Ennia. He is drinking wine rather heavily. Ennia is radiant with happiness. Through columns, the temple of Jupiter on Capitol Hill is visible. It is early evening and the sky is pink and gold.

Around Ennia are some Slaves who are masturbating. Their sperm is used by Ennia as a beauty cream.

Caligula comes in.

Caligula takes some semen and sprinkles it on his hair.

CALIGULA

Is it good for growing hair?

Caligula goes out to the terrace. Drusilla is waiting there. Caligula looks at her, then returns.

ENNIA

(welcoming)

The divorce will only take a few days...

CALIGULA
I think we should move.

ENNIA
Move? Where?

CALIGULA
Alexandria, say...

ENNIA
What...move to Egypt?

CALIGULA
Yes...what do you think?

ENNIA
But the Senate...I mean...I'd hate to
leave Rome.

CALIGULA
I am Rome. And wherever I am, Rome is.
(intones pompously)
And there is the Senate and the People
of Rome.

ENNIA
You do make me laugh...the way you say
that.

Chaerea enters with Longinus.

LONGINUS
Forgive us, Caesar.

Caligula leaps to his feet. Ennia covers herself modestly with
a sheet.

CALIGULA
Is it done?

Chaerea glances at Ennia. Then he nods.

CHAEREA

He has been executed.

CALIGULA

Good. Longinus, the commission.

Longinus hands Caligula a scroll which Caligula gives to Chaerea.

CALIGULA

Chaerea, you are now officially appointed commander of the Imperial Guard.

ENNIA

But what about Macro? What's happened? Where is he?

CHAEREA

He has been executed for treason.

ENNIA

Treason? But that's impossible!

(turns to Caligula)

Caesar, you know he worshipped you. He made you...

CALIGULA

Nobody made me.

ENNIA

I can't believe it...

(to Chaerea)

What was it...what did he do?

Caligula answers.

CALIGULA

Ennia, I had to take my destiny with my own hands. Your husband Macro murdered my beloved grandfather Tiberius Caesar, Emperor of Rome.

Ennia spits in Caligula's face. He grins.

Chaerea and Longinus take Ennia out.

Caligula goes to the terrace, where Drusilla has been standing listening.

CALIGULA
(laughing-and wiping away spit)
Now she doesn't have to get a
divorce!

DRUSILLA
You're a good actor, Caligula.

CALIGULA
Am I? Really?

DRUSILLA
And you learn fast...

CALIGULA
Thanks to my tutor...

Caligula takes her in his arms.

CALIGULA
Now we are safe.

DRUSILLA
Emperors are never safe.

Drusilla slips out of his embrace and goes into the room. Lies on the couch.

DRUSILLA
The next step is to find you a respectable
wife.

Caligula lies beside her on the couch.

CALIGULA
I'm going to marry you.

DRUSILLA
You can't. We are not...

CALIGULA
Egyptians. I know. We are much more beautiful...

Caligula looks at himself in the hand mirror. Affects an angelic expression.

DRUSILLA
And Rome is not Egypt. And stop looking at yourself like that.

CALIGULA
Then let's go to Egypt. After all, that's where Isis lives...

DRUSILLA
You are a fool.

CALIGULA
Caesar cannot be a fool.

DRUSILLA
Caesar is doing his best. Little boots, they'll throw you in the Tiber if you try to move the government.

CALIGULA
But I can do anything I like.

Drusilla gets off the bed. She changes the subject.

DRUSILLA
You are going to marry a respectable Roman lady of the senatorial class.

CALIGULA
Why?

DRUSILLA

To strenghten your alliances... and
to have an heir.

CALIGULA

(gloomily)

Who will kill me when he grows up.

DRUSILLA

The priestesses of the Great Goddess
are meeting at my house tonight. Many
of them are unmarried...

CALIGULA

Good breeding mares?

DRUSILLA

Precisely.

CALIGULA

And you want me to marry one of them.

DRUSILLA

Yes.

CALIGULA

No.

DRUSILLA

Yes.

CALIGULA

No.

Caligula takes her tenderly in his arms.
For a long moment they remain fondling each other lovingly.

25. INT. DRUSILLA'S HALL

Some fifty women in priestesses robes are moving about the room, making intricate balletic gestures. A small effigy of the Great Goddess stands at one end of the room. In front of the statue is a brazier filled with burning incense. Each woman ritually throws incense into the fire.

Caligula is got up most convincingly as a woman. The others pay no attention to him as they go about their ceremonies.

CAMERA pans the women carefully. Some are very young, handsome. Casually Caligula approaches Drusilla.

CALIGULA

When do they take their clothes off?

DRUSILLA

Don't be disgusting.

CALIGULA

I'm being practical. How can I marry a woman...

Caligula stops. He has seen an attractive girl.

She is young, pretty, virginal.

CALIGULA

I like that.

DRUSILLA

Livia. She's taken. She's the one marrying one of your officers. Proculus.

CALIGULA
I will send him to Spain.

DRUSILLA
She's a virgin. And very boring. Not
your style.

Caligula has now seen what he likes. A Woman is bathing in the
water.

CALIGULA
That will be my wife.

An elegant, sensual looking woman in her late twenties. She
holds herself well, moves gracefully.

DRUSILLA
Oh no. Not Caesonia.

CALIGULA
(irritably)
You are impossible. You ask me here to
find a wife. The first one I like you
say is too boring. The second one is
too...well, what?

DRUSILLA
The most promiscuous woman in Rome.

CALIGULA
(interested)
Go on.

DRUSILLA
Caesonia is divorced. She has three
daughters. She is always in debt. She
sleeps with everyone.

CALIGULA
I want her.

DRUSILLA
(firmly)
But not for a wife.

CALIGULA

Send her to me. Now.

Caligula turns to leave the hall.

DRUSILLA

(alarmed)

Not now. Later.

CALIGULA

Now. Here.

DRUSILLA

But...

CALIGULA

(mocking the famous formula)

Such is the will of the Senate and the people of Rome.

26. INT. DRUSILLA'S BEDROOM

Caligula is still dressed as a priestess. He arranges **candles**, as though for a religious ceremony.

Drusilla brings in Caesonia.

Caesonia faces the 'priestess' and a **brazier** red-hot with **coals**. she shows no fear.

Caligula stretches out his hand. Caesonia comes forward, takes it. Though she obeys, there is a cold remoteness about her, the suggestion of something intimate withheld. Caligula treats her like a scapegoat in a religious ceremony. He mimes a sacrifice. Throws **incense** on the brazier. Then draws a **knife** from under his **robe**. He grazes her throat with the knife. There is a tiny drop of **blood**. Drusilla goes out.

CALIGULA

A lamb to the slaughter...

CAESONIA

(startled)

Caesar...

Caligula kisses the blood on her throat delicately.

CAESONIA

You are very convincing as a priestess,
Caesar.

CALIGULA

And you as a scapegoat, Caesonia...

Caligula undresses her, puts her in the bed altar, touches her, fondles her. He possesses her.

They make love. At first gently, fully clothed. Then they become frenzied as their robes are torn away.

27. EXT. IMPERIAL BOX AT THE GAMES - DAY

Caligula and Drusilla are talking as Gladiators fight beneath them in the stadium. Both Drusilla and Caligula are seated on thrones.

Longinus stands at one side, Chaerea at the other. Gemellus is behind them. Guards in the back.

CALIGULA

I told her that I would marry her...

DRUSILLA

Don't!

CALIGULA

(pleased with his own cunning)
But only after she has given me a child.

DRUSILLA

How will you ever know if it's yours?

CALIGULA

I shall have her well guarded.

DRUSILLA

Then one of the guardsmen will be the father.

CALIGULA

All the guards will be Eunuchs...

A scanned roar comes from the crowd.

CALIGULA

How I hate these filthy games.

Gladiators are hacking at each other with spears, short swords, tridents. The Crowd adores the spectacle.

CAMERA pans among the crowd. People fight over the merits of the gladiators. The people tend to be hideous, deformed from illness, wounds. But all are excited by the bloodiness of the spectacle. CAMERA pans to a group. Among them is Livia, with a young man, who is watching the Gladiators with some fascination. He is dressed as a soldier.

Caligula has seen the couple. He looks mischievous.

CALIGULA

Is that the officer Livia's going to marry?

DRUSILLA

Yes, Proculus...
Beautiful, isn't he?

Caligula motions to Longinus.

Two Guards approach Proculus. They lift him out of his seat. He struggles. But they swing him over the barrier into the arena. Proculus drops to his feet into the sand. A roar goes up from the crowd. One of the Guards throws Proculus a sword.

Four Gladiators turn on Proculus. They are armed, respectively with a spear, a trident, a sword, a dagger. They converge on Proculus.

Proculus fighting, sweating.
One by one he defeats all four.
The Crowd is ecstatic.
When the last Gladiator falls, Proculus crosses toward the imperial box.
He is sweating, bleeding. He looks up at Caligula... still uncertain what has been done to him, or why.

Caligula scowls at him.

DRUSILLA

He was superb, wasn't he?

Caligula nods. Then he flashes a radiant smile and gets to his feet.

He lowers on Proculus's head the crown of the winner.

CALIGULA

(powerful voice)

For Proculus. The crown of victory!

Proculus is much relieved. He bows low to the Emperor. He's crowned.

PROCLUS

I'm honored, Caesar.

CALIGULA

I believe you are to marry the beautiful Livia.

PROCLUS

Oh...you know Livia?

CALIGULA

Not yet.

28. INT. PROCULUS'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Proculus and Livia stand side by side...a handsome young couple

★ surrounded by friends and family. Livia wears the flame colored cloak of a Roman bride.

A sound of tumult outside. Horses neighing, armor clanking. Then Guards appear. They line up on either side of the door as the house Butler, in a terrified voice, proclaims.

BUTLER

Caligula Caesar, Emperor of Rome!

Caligula enters, all smiles; just behind him are Caesonia and Drusilla.

CALIGULA

(to Butler)

And the Lady Drusilla.

BUTLER

And the Lady Drusilla.

CALIGULA

And the Lady Caesonia.

BUTLER

And the Lady Caesonia.

CALIGULA

We are late. Please forgive us. Was the ceremony beautiful? The auguries good?

Everyone is now bowing deeply as Caligula and Caesonia approach the young couple.

PROCULUS

Yes, Caesar. You are very...gracious to come.

Caligula offers a hand to each of the bridal couple for kissing.

CALIGULA

I had to. You are a Roman hero.

(to Livia)

What a delicious bride.

Livia blushes, eyes downcast.

CALIGULA

Go on with your party. I am just a guest. Like any other.

Rather stiffly the company continues the party. Caligula, Caesonia and Drusilla take wine together. No one dares approach them.

CALIGULA

She is perfect, isn't she?

CAESONIA

You want her?

CALIGULA

(thoughtfully)

Mmmm.

DRUSILLA

I thought you didn't like virgins.

CALIGULA

I don't think I've ever known one.

(turns to Caesonia, eyes aglitter)

Well, should I?

CAESONIA

(as excited as he)

You are Caesar.

DRUSILLA

You mustn't!

CALIGULA

Caesar "mustn't"?

DRUSILLA

But why, Caligula? Why?

CALIGULA

For entertainment.

DRUSILLA

We have enough entertainment already
and enough enemies.

Caligula approaches the bridal couple. He is cheerful, a bit manic.

CALIGULA

Now for the procession to the bridal
chamber. And to the sacred marriage
bed.

Everyone looks a bit shocked. This is not the way the ceremony
is supposed to go but none dares demur. With the Butler in the
lead, Caligula solicitously shepherds the young couple.
Camera with them. Across the atrium to the doors of a bedroom
bedecked with flowers. The rest of the company follows.

29. INT. BEDROOM

Proculus and Livia have entered the bedroom. As the Butler is
about to close the door, Caligula pushes past him.

CALIGULA

I shall now bestow the special blessing
of Caesar upon this happy union.
(to Butler, angry)
Shut the door.

The door shuts and the three stand in the center of the room.
The bed is strewn with rose petals. Both Proculus and Livia
are bewildered and embarrassed.
Caligula is cheerful, kindly.

CALIGULA

I've never seen such a handsome couple.

Proculus and Livia stare at Caligula mutely.

CALIGULA

Now for my wedding gift.

CALIGULA (cont'd)
(gestures to Livia)
Take off those robes, dear girl.

LIVIA
(appealing to Proculus)
But...no...

CALIGULA
(very hard)
No?

A tense moment, Livia looks at Proculus who nods.

Livia begins to undress. She is confused, horrified.
Caligula watches her with pleasure. He also looks, from time to time, at Proculus to see how he is reacting.
Proculus is furious but helpless.

Livia is now nude. Modestly she covers her sex, head bowed.

Caligula walks all around her as if she were a statue.
Camera with him.

CALIGULA
(to Proculus)
Very nice. My compliments. Perhaps a little heavy in the hips, but...

Caligula squeezes Livia's thigh; she starts as if burned.

CALIGULA
Don't move.
(turns to Proculus)
Is this the first time you have seen your beautiful wife...as she really is?

PROCCULUS
(a croak)
Yes, Caesar.

CALIGULA
(to Livia)
Are you really a virgin?

LIVIA

(a whisper)

Yes, Caesar.

CALIGULA

I think I shall faint. Lie on the bed.

Livia lies on the bed. On her back, hands still hiding her sex. Caligula drops his robe, pulls up his tunic. Proculus gives a start. Livia shuts her eyes.

CALIGULA

Yes, Proculus?

PROCLUS

Nothing, Caesar...What...

But Proculus cannot finish the sentence.

CALIGULA

What am I going to do? Watch.

During this speech Caligula has got onto the bed. Roughly he shoves aside Livia's hands. Then spreads wide her legs. He kneels between them. Looks down at her.

She lies defenseless, eyes screwed shut. Caligula's hands caress and feel her body, partly with lust, partly as if examining butcher's meat.

CALIGULA

Open your eyes.

When she does not, he pulls them open with his fingers.

CALIGULA

Lucky girl! To lose your virginity to a direct descendant of the goddess Venus. Oh, what I would give to be you at this moment.

During this Caligula roughly inserts himself. Livia gives a cry which he quickly stops with his hands.

Proculus is shattered. He shuts his eyes.

Caligula turns his head from Livia to Proculus.

CALIGULA

Open your eyes, Proculus.

(shouting)

Open them!

Caligula thrusts with his body. A louder cry from Livia.

30. INT. ATRIUM

Caesonia and Drusilla sits enthroned amongst the wedding guests. Everyone has heard the cries from the bedroom. A long moment. No one speaks. All are formal. Then Drusilla stands and goes out.

31. INT. WEDDING BEDROOM

Caligula is on his feet; tunic rumpled, breathing hard. On the bed Livia is curled into a pre-natal position. She is silent. Down one thigh, blood trickles onto the sheet.

CALIGULA

(gasping for breath)

I've never worked so hard in my life!

Silence from Proculus who stares at the bed; at Livia, at the blood.

CALIGULA

(touches his genitals through the tunic)

I'm raw.

(to Proculus)

She really was a virgin. Are you?

• PROCULUS

Me, Caesar?

CALIGULA

Yes, are you a virgin too?

PROCULUS

Well, no...Caesar..

CALIGULA

Isis will not like that. One law for woman. One law for man. That's not fair. We shall alter that. Come on.

• PROCULUS

Come on?

CALIGULA

Off with your clothes.
The spirit of the goddess Isis, as well as Venus, is upon me. You're in luck.

Reluctantly the embarrassed Proculus strips. Livia stares at him from the bed.

As he did with Livia, Caligula makes a leisurely tour around Proculus, Camera with him, examining the naked body in the same dispassionate way. He pinches the genitals.

Proculus gasps but remains standing at military attention. At Proculus's rear, Caligula notices with amusement the tightly elenched buttocks. He pats them, like a horse's flank. Caligula motions Proculus to bed, ass up.

PROCULUS

No, Caesar, I beg you...

CALIGULA

(ironic)

Don't you love me, Proculus?

PROCULUS

Yes, Caesar, but...

Livia squats on the floor and watches with fascinated horror.

CALIGULA

I particularly like your nice bushy hair
...so thick.

32. INT. ATRIUM

There are the guests. Everybody responds in whispers, shocked or amused, as they listen to the sounds from the room. Proculus screams. Everybody hears it. They look at one another. Voices offscreen.

CALIGULA (O.S.)

You lied to me. You're a virgin too.

PROCULUS (O.S.)

Yes, Caesar. I am...there...

Proculus gives a grunt as Caligula thrusts again.

CALIGULA (O.S.)

(irritably)

You're a lot tougher then she is...

PROCULUS (O.S.)

(agony)

Don't.

CALIGULA (O.S.)

(savage)

Don't. You say "don't" to me?

PROCULUS (O.S.)

(frightened)

I mean...yes...do...please...

CALIGULA (O.S.)
Say you love me, Proculus.

PROCULUS (O.S.)
(gasping)
I...love...you...Caesar.

CALIGULA (O.S.)
Caligula.

PROCULUS (O.S.)
Caligula.

CALIGULA (O.S.)
And you like this?

PROCULUS (O.S.)
(in pain)
Oh...yes...yes...I love it...Caligula.

Caligula gives a final vicious jab. Proculus cries out.
Caesonia chuckles.

33. INT. WEDDING ROOM

CALIGULA
Well, I don't.
(gets off Proculus, pulls down the
tunic; to Proculus)
Get up, bitch. You've worn me out.
(to Livia)
Your wife's insatiable.

Proculus and Livia stand side by side, sweating, heads bowed; the blood is drying on her thigh but a fresh trickle streams down Proculus's legs from his torn anus. Caligula puts on his cloak; he mops his face. Still breathing fast, he smiles at the raped couple.

CALIGULA
See? I have exhausted myself in order

CALIGULA (cont'd)
 to make your wedding...holy.
 (embraces the two of them warmly)
 My blessings upon you both.

Caligula starts to the door.

34. INT. CLERK'S OFFICE

A large room with a long table at which clerks copy out documents. Longinus presides at a desk. As Caligula enters, Longinus rises and kisses his hand. The other clerks rise, but Caligula waves and they sit down.

MATERIALE SCRIVERE

CALIGULA

(languid)

Drusilla says that I have been neglecting my work. So I report for duty.

Longinus indicates a stack of papers.

LONGINUS

Your signature and seal, Lord.

Caligula goes to work.

CALIGULA

(mutters)

I, Caligula, command in the name of the Senate and people of Rome...

Then, bored with the usual formula, he begins to sing it. No one cracks a smile. Suddenly he stops.

CALIGULA

Dull, dull, dull...

LONGINUS

Caesar?

CALIGULA

If I don't do something fairly soon, I shall be remembered as Caligula. The Dull.

Caligula draws his dagger. Longinus flinches.

CALIGULA

I can see it now in the history books.

Caligula stabs his dagger into the table.

CALIGULA

Things are going too well, Longinus.

LONGINUS

Too well?

CALIGULA

Yes...no wars, no catastrophes... nothing. It's been ages since we've had a proper earthquake. So.... what Nature won't do, we shall have to do ourselves.

LONGINUS

Lord?

CALIGULA

There will be a famine.

LONGINUS

But the granaries are crammed...

CALIGULA

Exactly. Close them down.

LONGINUS

Close them?

CALIGULA

Yes, and stop all grain supplies. When the famine is successfully implemented, arrange for the issue of daily rations

CALIGULA (cont'd)
to each citizen.

LONGINUS
Yes, Lord.

CALIGULA
For which they will bless their emperor.

LONGINUS
Lord...

CALIGULA
What else? Perhaps I should conquer Persia like Alexander the Great. The people would like that. But I think war is a stupid business, don't you?

LONGINUS
Yes, Lord.

CALIGULA
What about a public library? A vast library, bigger than the ones Augustus built...containing only classic writers...not Homer or Virgil - boring old sods.

LONGINUS
Yes, Lord.

CALIGULA
I want a bridge right across the Bay of Naples.

LONGINUS
Yes, Lord.

CALIGULA
ALSO a ship with a garden.

LONGINUS
Yes, Lord.

CALIGULA

Drusilla likes gardens. And she likes the sea. Which reminds me: we haven't had a sea battle for a while. Let's flood the amphitheatre and have a sea battle between Greeks and Persians.

LONGINUS

Yes, Lord.

CALIGULA

And why do the Romans look so ugly? Issue an edict: every man is to wear two partings in his hair.

LONGINUS

Yes, Lord.

CALIGULA

Can't you ever say anything except "Yes Lord"? No wonder life's dull.

35. INT. CALIGULA'S BEDROOM

Caligula is sprawled on the bed. He jumps at a sudden clap of thunder. Goes out to the terrace. The sky is black and lit with streaks of lightning. Caligula looks up in superstitious terror. Catches a glimpse of someone further along the terrace...Gemellus.

CALIGULA

Gemellus.

Gemellus runs off.

The thunder booms. Caligula presses himself against a column. The rain pours down. Caligula is in a near hysterical state. He stands, drenched with rain, his hands clenched, his arms pressed to his body, shaking as if about to have a fit. Caesonia comes out and sees him.

CAESONIA

Caligula!

Caesonia tries to draw him in but he won't move from the column - he clings to it - shuddering.

Caesonia runs back into the room.

Caligula looks up at the black sky shot with lightning.

Caesonia reappears with Drusilla, Caligula almost falls into Drusilla's arms, sobbing.

CALIGULA

They're trying to kill me...

DRUSILLA

Come in...little boots...

Drusilla leads him into the room. He lies down on the bed.

DRUSILLA

Who's trying to kill you?

CALIGULA

Gemellus - he's trying to kill me.

DRUSILLA

(to Caesonia)

He's raving...

Drusilla embraces and comforts Caligula.

CALIGULA

He was there. I saw him. He ran away.

He wants me dead. I feel sick...

Caligula is shuddering with terror. His lips move in prayers that we cannot hear. Drusilla begins to massage his prick. Little by little Caligula calms down. He clings to Drusilla's breast. Drusilla gestures to Caesonia to join them. Surprised, Caligula is about to say something. Drusilla stops him - her tit in his mouth. Caesonia now also starts to massage the emperor. Caligula delighted falls asleep like a child. The two women begin to caress one another. They make love while Caligula snores loudly. The storm outside has quietened down.

36. INT. CALIGULA'S PRIVATE DINING ROOM

Caligula enters mounted on Incitatus. Caligula looks feverish, ill. A large room. Some twenty dinner Guests lie on couches. Women are also present, including Drusilla and Caesonia, who is pregnant. Among the guests, Claudius, Gemellus, Longinus and Chaerea. Guards at door.

Servants pass elaborate dishes. A butler announces.

BUTLER

Hail, Caesar!

CALIGULA

(to Butler)

Hail Caesar's beautiful horse Incitatus.

BUTLER

Hail, Caesar's beautiful horse Incitatus.

Looking down at the crowd, Caligula sees Gemellus. Leans forward and whispers to the horse. Caligula's voice is hoarse and thick - like with a heavy cold.

CALIGULA

(whisper)

Watch him, over there. Watch him.

Caligula dismounts. The Butler leads Incitatus to his place. Caligula pats Caesonia's belly.

CALIGULA

Has he started yet?

CAESONIA

I think so.

Caligula goes to Drusilla and embraces her, as Caesonia watches - her smile an attempt to disguise her jealousy.

CALIGULA

(to Drusilla)

You are the wisest woman in the world.

(kisses her)

CALIGULA (cont'd)
Gemellus intends to poison me.

DRUSILLA
You're sweating...you look feverish.

CALIGULA
Yes, of course, I'm being poisoned.

DRUSILLA
It's your imagination...

Caligula smiles knowingly and takes his place in the apse. The dinner Guests lie on couches. On Caligula's right is the nervous Gemellus. On his left is Claudius, gobbling his dinner, and playing dice. Caligula looks at him, then produces his own dice and throws two sixes. Claudius stares and then reaches for one of the dice. Caligula stops him. Throws again. We see that his dice are all sixes. Claudius has food dribbling down his chin.. Caligula taps him under the chin so that he gulps.

CALIGULA
Chuck, chuck, dear unclechuck, chuck!

Claudius swallows hard and laughs.

CALIGULA
(confidential)
I want your honest advice...

Claudius nods - his mouth full, still chewing.

CALIGULA
Should I make myself King of Rome?

CLAUDIUS
King? Oh dear. I mean...well, this is a republic...isn't it? That is...

CALIGULA
Very well: I shall be King of the Republic.

LONGINUS

(smoothly)

You are already greater than any king,
Caesar.

CALIGULA

I know. But I feel so...undistinguished.

LONGINUS

To us you are like a god.

CALIGULA

Like a god? I am a god. Or at least I
will be when I'm dead.

(to Gemellus)

Try some of these lampreys, Gemellus.

Caligula motions to a Slave.

Gemellus looks more nervous than ever.

A Slave places a platter in front of Gemellus.

Caligula watches closely as the boy takes a small mouthful.
Caligula rises.

CALIGULA

You used to love lampreys when we were
in Capri.

Caligula sits on the edge of Gemellus's couch. He starts to
feed the boy as if he were a baby.

Suddenly he stops and sniffs.

CALIGULA

What's that smell?

GEMELLUS

What smell, Caesar?

Caligula sniffs at Gemellus's mouth.

CALIGULA

Your breath. What have you been taking?

GEMELLUS

Just medicine...to ward off the fever.
It's very catching and --

CALIGULA

(grim)

No, Gemellus. You have come to Caesar's
table after swallowing an antidote for
poison.

GEMELLUS

No. No. Caesar...Look, there's Charicles.
He'll tell you it's just...

The entire room is frozen during this. Caligula turns to
Charicles, who is very pale.

CALIGULA

Did you give him medicine for the fever?

CHARICLES

Well, Caesar...Lord...I...

CALIGULA

Did you or didn't you? Yes or No?

CHARICLES

No.

CALIGULA

(softly)

Gemellus, to accuse your sovereign of
being a poisoner is a tremendous offence,
punishable by death.

GEMELLUS

But Caesar - I never accused -

CALIGULA

You took an antidote in advance...which
is tantamount to accusing me of poison-
ing you.
That is logical, is it not?

DRUSILLA

Caligula?

CALIGULA

(ignores Drusilla)

It is with sorrow that I am now obliged to follow ancient but necessary laws. Chaerea.

Chaerea stands and steps forward.

CALIGULA

Arrest Gemellus. For treason...

Chaerea summons the Guards to seize Gemellus.

CALIGULA

(seems deeply distressed)

Tiberius warned me to trust no one...
But you, Gemellus, my adopted son, my heir, how could you...

The Guards drag away the boy, who is struggling, protesting, weeping.

CALIGULA

(to the others, reasonable)

As if there could ever be an antidote against Caesar.

Drusilla has crossed to where Caligula is standing. Drusilla is in a rage and very like her brother. She speaks in a low voice for Caligula's ears only.

DRUSILLA

You must spare Gemellus.

CALIGULA

Why are you so concerned for him?

DRUSILLA

I'm not concerned for him - but for you.

CALIGULA

(very low)

He knows about...Tiberius. Therefore
he's a threat.

DRUSILLA

He's no threat. And he's not even
your heir. Caesonia carries your
heir.

CALIGULA

Gemellus must die.

DRUSILLA

You're going to ruin it all...
You bloody amateur!

CALIGULA

(outraged)

Amateur?

Caligula strikes Drusilla hard in the face. Drusilla is
thrown back and falls. The entire room in silent, shocked.
Drusilla gets to her feet and, without a word, leaves the room.
Even Caligula is stunned by his own ferocity.

Caesonia cannot completely disguise her pleasure at the rout
of Drusilla.

Caligula recovers his usual sly ebullience.
Caligula picks up the plate of lampreys and pops one in his
mouth.

CALIGULA

And they weren't even poisoned!

Caligula laughs. The company laughs, too...with relief.

Then Caligula simulates retching. At first the Guests are alarmed. But when they see that Caligula is clowning, he is cheered. Well pleased, he goes back to his place and motions for Caesonia to lie in Gemellus's place.

CAESONIA

Well done.

CALIGULA

Thank you.

CAESONIA

What will you do to her?
What she said was treason.

CALIGULA

I decide what is treason, not you.

Caligula stands.

CALIGULA

Caesonia, dance.

CAESONIA

Dance?

CALIGULA

Yes, show them your Asiatic dance.

CAESONIA

But my Lord...I can't...

CALIGULA

Why not?

CAESONIA

I'm too...heavy.

Caligula pats her on the belly.

CALIGULA

My son will dance with you. Music!

With a straight face that conceals all emotion, Caesonia rises. Musicians begin to play. She slips off her clothes. A small gasp from the guests as she steps out in the rectangular area bounded by the couches and small tables.

Caesonia dances to provoke Caligula. But what was meant to be her humiliation turns into Caligula's.

Caesonia's dance is sensual and abandoned. She is without embarrassment. Even Claudius stops chewing and stares at the spectacle.

37. INT. STABLES - NIGHT

Caligula is alone with the horse Incitatus. As he speaks Caligula moves around stabbing flies with a golden needle. Caligula looks ghastly. He is ill and feverish. He talks to the horse and listens to it, as if to a person.

CALIGULA

Poor Gemellus...We had to kill him
...for Rome. We ought to kill Drusilla
too.

(kisses Incitatus's neck)

You are very beautiful. Strange. Whether
I like it or not, history requires me to
make a...golden emptiness...all around
me. Except for you, Drusilla.

(Caligula mops his face)

I am alone on earth as I shall be in
Heaven. Something...is consuming me, I
think I'm dying.

Caligula goes into what resembles an epileptic fit: his whole body convulsing, his eyes turned up, his legs dancing, froth coming from his mouth. His arms are wrapped tight around the horses's neck.



38. INT. CALIGULA'S BEDROOM

There is the sound of a crowd mourning in the background. Caligula lies in bed delirious. Incitatus is in bed with him. Charicles attends him. Caesonia looks on.

CALIGULA

(babbling)

Tiberius...Don't...I'm not...I didn't
...spare me...

CHARICLES

The fever must break soon.

CAESONIA

If it doesn't?

Charicles gestures helplessly.

CALIGULA

(to the horse)

Drusilla, help me. Save me.

Caligula, wild-eyed, pulls himself up in bed.
He realizes that Incitatus and not Drusilla is next to him.

CALIGULA

Where is my sister?

CAESONIA

She's coming.

CALIGULA

Take my horse to his own bed.

Drusilla enters. She goes straight to Caligula.
Sits on the bed, places her hand on his brow.

DRUSILLA

(softly)

I'm here, little boots.

Caligula grabs her hand.

CALIGULA
I'm dying.

DRUSILLA
You are not.

CALIGULA
I must make my will.

DRUSILLA
Don't talk. Sleep.

CALIGULA
Longinus...I want Longinus.

Caesonia goes out to the terrace.
From Caesonia's POV:

39. EXT. TERRACE - NIGHT

Crowds of people, young and old, both sexes, weeping and praying as they wait for news of Caligula's condition.

Snatches of dialogue in the crowd.

CROWD
May Jupiter spare him...
They say he's been poisoned...He's
only young, he'll pull through...
The aristocrats didn't like him...
He was too independent for them...
He spoke his own mind...
Whatever you say, he was good to the
people. With Caligula you got justice...

Further along the terrace stand Chaerea, Longinus, Proculus,
and Acesius, looking at the crowds, and speaking in low
voices.

ACESIUS
Just listen to the crowds...

LONGINUS

How the people love him!

PROCULUS

Yet nobody is safe with him.

CHAEREA

The Empire is safe.

PROCULUS

The Empire? But he's a tyrant!

CHAEREA

Better tyranny than anarchy. I know your feelings, Proculus...but personal feelings must not affect us. A few families in Rome may suffer, but the Empire is stable. There could be far worse horrors - revolution, war, civil chaos - if Caligula were to die.

ACESIUS

It looks as if he's going to die anyway.

They fall silent as Caesonia comes along the terrace.
Caesonia summons Longinus into the bedroom. The others follow.

40. INT. CALIGULA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

LONGINUS

I am here, Caesar.

CALIGULA

My will.

Longinus beckons an attendant who brings writing materials.

CALIGULA

Herewith...to beloved Drusilla...all my property. To her...the Roman Empire... the title of Augusta.

(Caligula is drifting off)

...The uniform I wore in Germany...as a child...little boots...

Caesonia is appalled. Longinus scribbles quickly. Then he steps forward. But Caligula's eyes are now shut and he is breathing heavily. Caesonia motions for Longinus to step back.

CAESONIA

(softly)
He's sleeping.

CALIGULA

(as softly)
No, he's not.

Caligula opens his eyes. With a final effort he signs and seals the document. He falls back into the pillow, exhausted. Turns to Drusilla.

CALIGULA

(to Drusilla)
Why do I quarrel with you? Why do
I get so angry with you?

DRUSILLA

You can't help it...

CALIGULA

We'll never quarrel again...

DRUSILLA

(smiles)
Oh yes we will.

CALIGULA

Don't let me die.

Drusilla holds him maternally in her arms. She whispers to him.

Charicles tries to stop her.

CHARICLES

My lady...you mustn't touch -

DRUSILLA

Leave me.

~~CHARICLES~~

But the fever...

DRUSILLA

Silence!

Drusilla cradles him.

Sleep, child...sleep...you're safe
...Drusilla is here.

Caesonia is radiant with jealousy and fear.

The clerk Acesius is in tears.

ACESIUS

(wails)

I offer my life...if Jupiter will
only spare our beloved Emperor!

Longinus and the other clerk nod. They appreciate this bravura
gesture.

Caligula stirs. Even in his delirium he has made a note.
Caligula opens an eye, looks at Acesius.

CALIGULA

Jupiter accepts your offer.
(to Longinus)
Execute him.

The terrified Acesius is led away by guards.

Charicles is examining Caligula who is bathed now in sweat.

CHARICLES

(smiles)

The fever is breaking.

DRUSILLA

Hear that, little boots? You're going
to live.

41. INT. MAIN HALL OF THE PALATINE

A large crowd of Officials, Courtiers mill about. Seated side by side are Caligula and Drusilla. Drusilla looks very pale. Longinus, Chaerea, are among those in attendance. Caligula is dressed as a bridegroom. As the curtain on a stage: there is a loud scream from behind the curtain at the end of the room. The curtain hides from view the apse where usually the emperor sits on a dais.

CALIGULA

(to Drusilla)

Now it starts.

A series of cries from Caesonia (O.S.)

Charicles appears, theatrically, in front of the curtain.

CHARICLES

The child's head has just appeared...

Caligula is on his feet. He rushes to the curtain and rips it open.

Caesonia is in the act of giving birth. The head of the child is visible between her legs. Caesonia cries out from the strain. Caligula rushes to look at the head.

CALIGULA

It's alive?

CHARICLES

Yes, Caesar. That is...

CALIGULA

My lords, I am now to be married.
To Caesonia. The mother of my son...
and heir.

Applause from the Courtiers. A Priest steps forward. Caligula takes one of Caesonia's hands in his. Drusilla stations herself beside him. The Priest nervously mutters the ceremony. Just as it is finished, the Midwife holds up the baby...

triumphantly.

MIDWIFE

A beautiful child, Caesar!

CALIGULA

And a beautiful bride.

(kisses Caesonia's sweaty brow)

You are now wife, mother and empress of Rome...

CAESONIA

(weakly)

I am yours...forever.

Drusilla has been looking at the baby, which is being washed and seen to by the Midwives. Then Drusilla turns to Caligula.

DRUSILLA

It is a girl.

CALIGULA

(firmly)

It is not - a girl. Didn't you just hear me say...

DRUSILLA

Yes. I heard the voice of Caesar. But your daughter did not.

CALIGULA

(glumly)

I should have waited, shouldn't I?

DRUSILLA

There will be other children.

Thoughtfully, Caligula looks down at the baby. Then he crosses to Caesonia.

CALIGULA

Well. Well.

Caligula obviously regrets the hasty marriage. But then he makes the best of it.

CALIGULA

The child has such a sweet bottom she must be mine.

Caesonia gives him a fleeting smile.
Caligula turns towards the assembly.

CALIGULA

Let us drink to my daughter! To Julia Drusilla!

Everyone cheers.

CALIGULA

In celebration of the birth of Julia Drusilla and of my marriage, one month of free games and a gold coin to every citizen of the city...

Caligula turns to Drusilla, to embrace her. But she is standing clinging to a table her eyes closed. She looks as if she is about to faint.
Caligula holds her.

CALIGULA

Drusilla...What is it? What's wrong?

DRUSILLA

(looks at him)
Now you have your wife and your heir...

Drusilla slumps. Caligula holds her.

42. INT. CALIGULA'S ROOM - DAY

Caligula paces restlessly as Caesonia nurses the baby Julia. The bird flies in and beats around the walls and ceiling. Caligula stares at it in superstitious dread. It flies out.

Caligula stands for a second transfixed.

CAESONIA
Caligula...

CALIGULA
What does it mean?

Caesonia looks at him, confused. Suddenly he runs out.

43. INT. DRUSILLA'S BEDROOM

Caligula comes running into the room. Drusilla lies very pale and still on her bed, hardly breathing. Charicles and two women are in attendance.

Caligula is beside himself with anxiety and grief.

CALIGULA
Do something, damn you!

CHARICLES
I am doing everything I can, Caesar. I swear. But the fever...

Caligula leans down to Drusilla.

CALIGULA
It's little boots. Can you hear me?

But Drusilla is unconscious. Caligula gathers her up in his arms.

CALIGULA
(whispers)
Don't leave me. Not now.

Drusilla's face is serene, white, dying.

Caligula puts her back on the pillow. He crosses to the shrine of Isis in the corner. A lighted brazier glows in front of

the image.

CALIGULA

Holy Isis...save her. Take my life...
my family...my Empire. Take what you
will. But save her. Caesar begs you,
almighty mother.

He throws ritual incense on the brazier.

Charicles approaches Caligula who is now mumbling prayers
to himself. Charicles is stiff with terror.

CHARICLES

Caesar...

Caligula turns. He is wild-eyed. He looks past Charicles at
the bed. Drusilla is entirely still. The two Women weep softly.

CHARICLES

She is dead.

There is a moment of absolute silence. Then Caligula throws
back his head and howls like an animal.

Caesonia enters the room. She starts to move toward Caligula
but hesitates as one howl after another rends the air.

Caesonia runs to him. But he pushes her away. Gets up.
And drives Caesonia and the others out of the room.

Out of his mind with grief, and rage, he goes to the statue
of Isis.

CALIGULA

I begged you! Caesar begged you!

He cracks open the statue's head. Turns, demented, to the bed.
Stares at the body of Drusilla.

CALIGULA

Drusilla?
(silence)

CALIGULA (cont'd)

Drusilla...
(silence)
Drusilla.

Caligula touches the corpse. Begins disrobing her. As he does so he speaks to her.

CALIGULA

I'm alone...you've left me...like this
...alone...in this place...enemies...
Why did you?

Caligula kisses Drusilla on the lips. Looks at the wasted body. He kisses the body, gently at first, then fiercely. Mounts the body.

44. EXT. SLUMS - NIGHT

Caligula runs along crowded streets lit with torches. A hood covers most of his face. He looks demented and dirty, and is unrecognisable as the Emperor. A stormy night with thunder. Prostitutes are on display and pimps bargain. Men roll dice. Caligula stops where a small group of people are watching a soldier put up an edict. The soldier uses a step ladder to put the edict about eight feet high. The edict is in small print with the name "CALIGULA" in large letters at the base. The crowd cranes up to see it.

MAN

What is it? More taxes? It's too high up to read.

SOLDIER

(laughs)
That's the point.

People climb on each other's shoulders to read the edict.

MAN

(reads loudly)
"We, Caius Caesar Caligula, do decree
one month of public mourning for my

MAN (cont'd)

beloved sister Drusilla. During which time anyone who dines with his parents or children, anyone who has intercourse with his parents and anyone who laughs, will be sentenced to death.

CROWD

...What's the point of that?
It won't bring his sister back.
...He's a bit mad but he's all right to us.
...Look at the Games he gives us!
Terrific!
...You know why I love him?
Because he hates those bastards in the Senate!
...He never taxed us like Tiberius.

Caligula stands looking up at the edict, then is pushed away by other people arriving to look at it. Sexuals deals go on as usual: matrons in and out of brothels.

45. INT. TAVERN - NIGHT

Caligula enters a tavern. Mnester, a Greek actor, is about to present a show to the drunken audience.

The crowd shout encouragement.

CROWD

Mnester! Come on, Mnester...

Mnester assembles a cast of very ugly men and women, and unclothes them.

The crowd presses close to get a better look.

Caligula gets a drink from a servant. Looks curiously at the show.

People laugh and cheer as Mnester arranges a human pyramid.

MNESTER

The Slaves of Rome...
The People...
The Army...
The Senate...
The Consuls...
The Tribune of the People...
The Magistrates...
The Knights...
The Priests...
Pontifex Maximus...

Mnester climbs to the top of the pyramid.

MNESTER

And reigning supreme...the emperor!

The crowd cheer him on.

The servant is pestering Caligula for payment for the drink.
Caligula realises he has no money with him. Brushes the
servant aside.

The servant seizes the drink Caligula is holding.
There is a tussle. Caligula is trying to watch the show. He
throws the drink over the servant and pushes him over, then
forces his way through the crowd, with the servant in pursuit.

CROWD

(to Mnester)

The emperor!

MNESTER

(stretching out his arms, recites)

"The Empire is headless: Caligula has fled
Mnester restores the imperial head!"

Roars of laughter from the crowd.

Caligula is infuriated. He forces his way savagely through
to the pyramid.

Caligula pulls away one of the "slaves" at the base and the pyramid collapses. Caligula is buried in the mess of struggling bodies.

46. INT. PALACE - LONGINUS'S OFFICE - DAY MATERIALE DA SCRIVERE

As the clerks continue their constant copying, Caesonia and Longinus talk in low voices.

LONGINUS

According to one report, he's gone to Egypt.

CAESONIA

No. He's here. In Rome. He's testing us.

(grim smile)

If I were you, I would not laugh, Longinus.

LONGINUS

Nor will I dine with my children or have intercourse with my parents for a month.

47. INT. ROMAN BATH - NIGHT

Public baths crowded with men and women; the atmosphere steamy, the noise from the furnaces overwhelming.

Men are exercising with dumb-bells, and singing and splashing in the water. Boys play around. Sellers of cakes, sausages and other snacks shout their wares. Masseurs, prostitutes, and pimps. Many of the people are deformed. Some are sprawled in a drunken stupor, some make love.

Caligula drifts through the crowds, avoiding outstretched hands and invitations. His eyes are fixed on a scene at the side of the bath, where a prostitute is entertaining a crowd. He hears

the name "Drusilla". He joins the crowd.

PROSTITUTE

You know what they used to say about Caligula and Drusilla. But he was really devoted to her. Really devoted. Now she's gone he'll have to make love to his wife!

Roars of laughter from the crowd.

PROSTITUTE

No wonder he was so upset! That's why he ordered a month of mourning.
(obscene gestures)
Nobody to screw for a month...and nobody to eat...

A man in the crowd throws the prostitute a sausage. She gobbles it. The crowd urge her on. Caligula pushes his way to the front.

The prostitute stretches out her arms and alters her tone in mockery of Drusilla.

PROSTITUTE

I am the Lady Drusilla...Has anyone seen my little boots?

The crowd shriek with laughter.

Caligula leaps at the prostitute and knocks her into the bath. He jumps in after her and seizes her head and pushes her under the water. The prostitute struggles frantically as he holds her under.

Pimps jump in after Caligula. They tear him off the woman, drag him out of the bath, and beat him savagely. Somebody gives aid to the woman.

Finally the pimps drag Caligula by his feet to the exit and hurl him into the street.

48. EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Caligula lies in the street, unconscious, his face smeared with blood, froth on his lips.

A soldier drives a barred cart over him.

The soldier feels the bump as the wheels hit the body, he stops the cart, and speaks to another soldier.

SOLDIER 1

What was that?

SOLDIER 2

(looks back)

Another bum.

The second soldier gets down, picks up Caligula, and throws him into the cart - into a pile of emaciated bodies.

49. PRISON - EXT. DAY

It is an open air penitentiary, more like a concentration camp than a prison. The prisoners are soaked by driving rain. The prisoners are alcoholics, or social rebels, or debtors awaiting trial or payment: a mixture of social classes, but inevitably with a high proportion of drop-outs, many hideously deformed or crippled.

As squabbles break out among the prisoners, soldiers look on and laugh.

Top dog in the prison is a one-eyed giant, who sprawls on the floor drinking wine; he is a deaf mute, and gives a strange choked laugh each time the whip cracks.

Caligula is lying unconscious. A Dwarf and a Cripple are frisking him, while keeping an eye on the guards.

The Dwarf examines Caligula's filthy tunic with disgust.

Nothing of value. Sees the ring on Caligula's left hand. Pulls at it but it won't come off.

The cripple notices and makes a grab for the ring.

DWARF

It's mine! Lay off!

The cripple leaves the ring and, instead, tugs at Caligula's ear~~ring~~. Pulls it off, tearing the flesh. Caligula gasps and opens his eyes. His look is so cold and intense that both the cripple and the dwarf draw back in alarm.

Caligula looks round the prison. He takes in the festering fetid mess of prisoners and for the first time shows an expression that is to become familiar: not horror, but profound contempt and disgust. His gaze rests briefly on the Giant, who looks back at him with interest.

Caligula looks at the Cripple.

CALIGULA

Give me the earring.

CRIPPLE

What earring?

CALIGULA

My earring.

CRIPPLE

I haven't got your earring.

Caligula seizes the cripple's arm. But the cripple spits in his face and at the same time the dwarf kicks him. They force Caligula down and twist his arm behind his back, pulling at the ring. Other prisoners join in the fight. The guard sees the disturbance and laugh. ~~He runs bravely.~~
The Giant has been watching. Now he gets up, walks over to the fight. The Guards move in with whips. The Giant seizes a whip in the air and tugs it so that the Guard falls headlong. The Giant seizes men from the pile and tosses them aside. Holds the dwarf in one hand, and the cripple in the other. Caligula is lying on the ground, battered and bleeding.

DWARF

It's him...He started it!

CRIPPLE

Yeah...calling us robbers.

CALIGULA

Give me the earring. I order you.

CRIPPLE

You order me? Who do you think you are? Caligula?

CALIGULA

Yes.

The prisoners hoot and jeer with derision.

PRISONERS

...Listen to him...
...Says he's Caligula...!
...He's a nut-case!

Caligula struggles to his feet. Faces the mob.
Eyes blazing, voice commanding.

CALIGULA

I am Caligula.

The Giant looks at him and suddenly falls to his knees. The dwarf and the cripple do the same, then, like a set of dominoes going down, all the other prisoners kneel.

The guard is left standing poised with his whip raised - he looks at Caligula - drops to his knees.
Caligula stands alone surveying the bowed heads with a look of contempt and arrogance...and a certain manic satisfaction.

50. INT. SENATE - DAY

The Senators rise as Caligula makes his entrance, still wearing the filthy tunic, still looking battered and bloody. The Giant follows.

The Senators stare in shock.

Claudius and Longinus greet him the apse. Caligula ignores them. He takes his seat, kicking Claudius away.

CALIGULA

The Consul Claudius has our permission to speak.

Claudius steps forward, very nervous. Finally he addresses not the Senate but Caligula.

CLAUDIUS

Great...uh...Divine Caesar...emperor
...consul...Beloved Caligula...it,
uh...we, the fact is, that...oh...
all Rome is as one...as one...

Caligula is much irritated. He prompts Claudius in a low but carrying voice.

CALIGULA

As one in its passionate desire...

CLAUDIUS

Yes...I was coming to that...passionate
desire that like your grandfather
Augustus and like your great grand-
father Julius Caesar you become a god
...but now...that is, while you're
still alive...I mean, still, with us.

Shocked reactions of the Senators. Longinus dumbfounded.

CLAUDIUS

They had to wait of course..until they
were dead...but you live; Great Caesar,
and you are a god to us, equal to...
uh, Jupiter and to...uh, well, Isis...
and...

Caligula stops Claudius with a gesture.

CALIGULA

I have existed from the morning of the
world. And I shall exist until the last
star falls from the night. Although I
have taken the form of Caligula, I am
all men, as I am no man. And so - I am
a god.

Caligula rises.

CALIGULA

The period of mourning is over.

Caligula tears down the black drapes.

CALIGULA

One month of free Games and free food
for every citizen of Rome.

Caligula turns to Claudius who has forgotten his cue.
Caligula's glare quickly restores Claudius.

CLAUDIUS

Oh, oh, my lords. All hail Caligula
the god!

The Senate as one roars again and again.

SENATORS

Hail, Caligula the god!

Caligula looks very grim as he listens to the acclamation.

51. INT. CALIGULA'S ROOM - DAY

Caesonia is massaging Caligula. His body is heavily bruised. He lies on his stomach as she works on him, expertly but savagely, in a mood of repressed anger. Caligula is aware of this. He smiles as she slaps him and kneads the muscles.

CALIGULA

All right, Caesonia...What have I done
now?

CAESONIA

Why did you make the Senate declare you
a god?

CALIGULA

The Senate made that decision, not me.

CAESONIA

Huh...

CALIGULA

Anyway...I am a god.

Caesonia digs savagely into his neck muscles.

CALIGULA

Ow!

CAESONIA

(satisfied)

A god with human weaknesses.

CALIGULA

Yes, I'm a god in human form. You believe that, don't you?

Caesonia cannot assess his mood.

CAESONIA

Yes...

CALIGULA

Then you are as stupid as the rest of them.

Caesonia is hurt badly - she moves away. Still lying on his stomach, Caligula shouts.

CALIGULA

I'm surrounded by hypocrites! Monkeys!
Forever chattering about love and
service and loyalty! Monkeys!

(scratches under his armpits)
Love chachacha! Service chachacha!
Loyaltychachacha!

CAESONIA

(cries)

I don't want you to die.

CALIGULA

You must be unique.

CAESONIA

But...I don't trust the Senate. I don't trust Longinus and Chaerea...

CALIGULA

I don't trust anybody. Except my giant.

CAESONIA

What...not even me?

CALIGULA

I trust your heart but not your logic.

CAESONIA

I know I'm not Drusilla...

CALIGULA

Silence!

CAESONIA

We have our daughter...we could have a son. We could be happy...

CALIGULA

A happy family on the imperial throne? That would be a novelty!

CAESONIA

I know that you'll do...whatever it is you want to do. But...do you have to make your contempt for the institutions...for everyone...so obvious?

CALIGULA

Yes.

CAESONIA

Why?

CALIGULA

Because that's my inspiration.

Caligula turns over on his back. Points to his prick.

CALIGULA

Now finish off the massage.

Caesonia jerks him off.

52. INT. JUPITER'S TEMPLE - DAY

A row of statues - all gods. Their heads are being replaced with the head of a smiling Caligula. Admiring the effect are, Caligula, Incitatus, Longinus, and Giant. Chaerea in the background with troop of Guards.

CALIGULA

Don't you think all the gods look a lot more...sympathetic now?

LONGINUS

Oh yes, Divine Caesar.

CALIGULA

Actually I was speaking to Incitatus.

Caligula pats the horse's head. Looks at the Giant, who is beaming at the new heads.

CALIGULA

You like them, don't you? What do you say?

Caligula leans his ear to the Giant's lips.

LONGINUS

I thought he was a deaf mute.

CALIGULA
(severely)
All things speak to me. And all things
listen.

As they examine the statues:

CALIGULA
And now to war!

LONGINUS
But Caesar...we can't possibly...

CALIGULA
Don't contradict me! I can't bear
contradictions. I am inflexible.

LONGINUS
Then we should restore the wine tax...

CALIGULA
The people won't love me if I tax
their wine.

LONGINUS
But how can we...

CALIGULA
We'll raise the money. Wars. Longinus!
Wars, conquests, invasions, slaves.
We must assemble the legions.
I shall invade...eh, Germany?
No. No. Britain. In the new year.
Give the orders.

LONGINUS
Yes, Divine Caesar...

CALIGULA
...There's plenty of money in Rome. We
have only to collect it. Don't worry
about money. We shall raise it by the
bushel.

Caligula stares at Jupiter's colossus.

C.U. of Caligula lifting his eyes to the top of the statue.

REVERSE SHOT: Instead of Jupiter's head we can see a seated Caligula staring down at a diminutive humanity at his feet.

CALIGULA

I shall celebrate the new year
receiving gifts from my good people.

Caligula holds in his hand Jupiter's bolts.

Chaerea joins Longinus.

LONGINUS

He's raving!
It's impossible!

CHAEREA

(sardonically)
You forget he's a god now.

53. INT. TEMPLE-NIGHT

Caligula watches as the Giant stands at the temple door with a basket receiving citizens' offerings as they file past. As soon as the basket is full, Caligula runs and pours the coins into the cell created in the basement of Jupiter's statue.

Caligula plays with the gold.

54. EXT. TEMPLE OF JUPITER - DAY

Caligula stands before the outdoor altar. Near the altar there are stacks of butchered animals. A bullock has been prepared for sacrifice.

The crowd around Caligula includes the Giant, Claudius, Longinus, Chaerea, Proculus and Soldiers. There are also groups of Senators and Priests, and citizens. In the background are the People, waiting for free food.

Caligula holds a mallet. We do not hear the dialogue but in pantomime we see the Priest explain to Caligula that just before the Priest cuts the animal's throat, Caligula is to stun it with a blow to the head. The Priest then motions to Caligula who raises high the mallet and brings it down with all his strength on the Priest's head. The Priest falls dead.

The senators roar with laughter. Caligula remains dignified, serious.

Caligula summons another Priest to cut the animal's throat. The Priest takes the knife. Caligula raises it as before and smashes the Priest on the head. The Giant nods. The Priest falls dead. The senators are shocked into silence. Caligula roars with laughter, as do the people in the background.

CALIGULA

(looks to Heaven)

Jupiter? Yes, I hear you. What? Speak up.

Those surrounding Caligula listen attentively, faces masked.[?]
A glance passes between Chaerea and Proculus.

CALIGULA

No. No. I can't let you stay here. I'm sorry. I am King of Gods now. And I need room.

(to others)

He's very upset. But then he has to do what I tell him.

(to sky)

Don't you, Jupiter? Because if you don't I'll send you straight to hell.

Caligula's blasphemy creates a considerable shock, compounded by Slaves appearing from the back of the temple with chests of gold, tripods, etc.

CALIGULA

(to Longinus)

Jupiter's treasury is now mine.

(Chuckles)

And you wanted to raise taxes!

The Giant gives a piercing whistle to summon the People to collect their free food. They run forward and seize the sutchered animals - and also drag away the two dead priests.

MAN 1

(dragging a priest)

No point in letting them go to waste.

MAN 2

It's about time they made themselves useful!

MAN 3

Holy meat tastes best anyway.

55. INT. CALIGULA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Caligula is dressed as Mercury with wings on his ankles. Caesonia watches perplexed.

CAESONIA

You're going too far...

CALIGULA

Really? The fun hasn't started yet.

Caligula opens a door. Sees Longinus.
Caesonia follows.

CALIGULA

Longinus...my financial wizard. A question for you: who is making the most money in Rome?

Longinus is speechless.

CALIGULA

Answer: The pimps. Question number two: Who are the most lascivious sluts in Rome?

Longinus stares in silence.

CALIGULA

Answer: Senators' wives. Solution...

Caligula opens a door.

56. INT. PALACE - SHIP ROOM - DAY

A big room which contains the ship with the garden. Some slaves stir the ship, others blow on the sails; on the bridge, in the decks, on the masts, everyone is having a tumultuous time. There are naked Girls, Boys, Men, Women enticingly arranged in beds and on the floor. The Women look uncommonly wretched. Carrying a pot the Giant ushers a mob around the room.

CALIGULA

...The Palace Brothel!
As you see we've gone to great expense to bring you the finest flesh in the empire...

The Mob is delighted at the figures on display.

CALIGULA

Just look at her...look at him...Go on!
(to Longinus)
Feel...All right, that's enough!

The passing of the merchandise stops. Chaerea motions his Guards to push the people back. In the crowd we see Proculus. Caesonia is to one side.
The Giant holds the pot out.

CALIGULA

Five gold pieces for each twenty minutes. And that's a bargain because every woman here is a respectable married lady.

(winks at Caesonia)

I shall have to work out a special rate for you.

The mob begin pouring money into the pot. Caligula does a bit of hustling, urging them on gleefully. Caligula stops and looks at one of the Girls.

CALIGULA

You'll drive customers away. Hairy nipples! Try hot walnuts...

(he makes a rolling motion over the breasts)

Longinus and Proculus slip behind Chaerea and whisper to him.

LONGINUS

He's mad. He doesn't know what he's doing.

CHAEREA

He knows what he's doing perfectly well.

PROCULUS

Is this too just a "personal" insult?

CHAEREA

It's a personal insult to every Senator in Rome. Be patient. If we give Caligula enough rope --

LONGINUS
...he'll hang us all.

Caligula notices Longinus with Proculus and Chaerea. Crosses to them.

CALIGULA
Can't you three stop plotting for just one night? Chaerea, I hear you have a taste for little boys.

CHAEREA
No, Caesar.

CALIGULA
How about a nice young virgin for you, Proculus?

Caligula climbs on deck.

CALIGULA
And now...We sail for Britain!

Cheers of crowd.

57. EXT. SENATE HOUSE - DAY

Cheering crowds, martial music, troops lined up. Caligula appears on the doorsteps of the Senate, dressed as a General. Behind him the members of the Senate flutter. Claudius peers anxiously from behind a pillar. Caesonia follows Caligula. She holds the daughter Julia.

CALIGULA
(powerfull voice)
Today we begin the conquest of Britain.

Loud cheers, trumpets.

CALIGULA
In the name of the...
(stops)

A bright smile.

CALIGULA
People of Rome!

Caligula salutes the mob; they are ecstatic; then he mounts his horse, Incitatus.

CAESONIA
Take care...

CALIGULA
The British armies are just a rabble.

CAESONIA
I mean your armies.

CALIGULA
Don't worry. I'm immortal.

Caligula rides through the mob which chants his name over and over again.

MOB
Cal-ig-u-la!

Chaerea joins Longinus in front of the Senate steps.

LONGINUS
He appeals to the People. The Senate
count for nothing.

CHAEREA
Not with Caligula...

SENATOR
He has mocked the gods, humiliated
the Senate, prostituted our wives...

CHAEREA
But the Army is still loyal...

The crowds are shouting.

MOB
Victory! Victory!

LONGINUS
(pious)
May he be victorious!

CHAEREA
May he be happy.

LONGINUS
Happy?

Chaerea looks at him sharply, nods.

LONGINUS
(smiles, nods)
May he be happy.*

58. EXT. APPIAN WAY - DAY

Caligula runs at the head of the Army. The Giant runs behind him. The Army has lost all order or formation and is a disorganised mob.

Caligula halts. Tired and sweating, he sits down in the hot sun. The soldiers follow suit, collapsing like a set of dominoes. Caligula sighs and opens his cloak; the little boots

* (Note: 'To be happy' means 'to be dead')

are tied about his neck like a charm. He touches them for luck.

CALIGULA

(to Chaerea)

So...where is Britain now?

After a pause of embarrassment:

CHAEREA

It is off to...North-East.

CALIGULA

(it is an order; he points towards one direction and then moves to the opposite)

To North-East.

He launches himself through fields and woods to the left, leaving the road, the army after him.

59. EXT. MEDITERRANEAN - DAY

Troops are drawn up on the beach. Caligula, the Giant Chaerea and a pair of Generals look across the water...at nothing. Caligula inspects the line-up troops. He is riding Incitatus.

The Giant brings Caligula an enormous sea shell. Caligula puts his ear to it. Listens.

CALIGULA

Neptune tells me all will be well.

On the top of a promontory Chaerea is talking to some officers, including Proculus.

CHAEREA

(to Proculus).

But what is he doing...we are only a

few miles from Rome.

Caligula arrives. He joins them.

CALIGULA

Is everything ready for the invasion?

CHAEREA

Yes Caesar - only there are no ships.

CALIGULA

But...there are shells...

CHAEREA

Shells, divine Caesar?

CALIGULA

Sea shells. Don't be stupid, Chaerea, order the army to collect sea shells.

CHAEREA

Yes, Lord.

Chaerea runs before the Army and orders the soldiers to collect sea shells.

Caligula watches with grim amusement as the Troops collect sea shells which they proceed to pile in great heaps. Turning to the Giant, he concludes.

CALIGULA

After all, we must have some proof that I conquered Britain.

60. EXT. FIELD - DAY

A meadow in which are gathered a number of tall Men wearing tunics. In large vats, red dye bubbles. Attended by Chaerea, Caligula moves among the vats and the Men.

Caligula watches as the Men dip their heads into the lurid red dye; then their hair is combed out by the hairdressers.

CALIGULA

(happily)

A very good color.

CALIGULA (cont'd)
 (to Chaerea)
 Congratulate the hairdresser.

Caligula stops in front of a Man whose long dyed red hair is being combed out by a hairdresser.

CALIGULA
 (at Large)
 All Britons have red hair. I cannot think why. They really do look like Britons don't they?

CHAEREA
 Oh yes, Divine Caesar.

CALIGULA
 So we shall return to Rome with one thousand British prisoners of war. As a proof that I conquered this island.

Caligula bestows a bewitching smile on one of the dyed Men then he tugs at the Man's hair playfully.

Claudius arrives with a party of six Senators.

CLAUDIUS
 Caesar - we bring most urgent news from Rome.

CALIGULA
 You see me exhausted. Since last we met I have conquered Britain.

CLAUDIUS
 Congratulations divine Caesar. No, really. Actually we've come in the name of the Senate to tell you that a secret plot against you has...uh, been revealed...

CALIGULA
 Only one? Is that all I deserve? I

CALIGULA (cont'd)
have heard rumours that the Senate
does not believe that I ever went
to Britain.

CLAUDIUS
No, no, Lord...

Claudius glances at Chaerea, who is listening intently.

CALIGULA
(through him)
Well, I did conquer Britain. And I
have one hundred thousand shells to
prove it.

Although the Senators are bewildered by the mad detail, they
incline their heads reverently.

CLAUDIUS
Sea shells. Yes. Very...useful.

CALIGULA
I shall also bring back to Rome one
thousand British prisoners.

CLAUDIUS
Oh, a great victory, Caesar...Yes,
yes.

CALIGULA
(carefully)
And every single one of my British
prisoners has extremely red hair.
But still you doubt me.

CLAUDIUS
No, Divine Caesar...

Caligula scowls theatrically.

CALIGULA
(to Giant)
Would you be so good as to throw my

CALIGULA (cont'd)
uncle Claudius into the Tiber...I mean,
into the Thames.

CLAUDIUS
(resigned)
Oh, dear.

The Giant picks up Claudius and throws him into the river.
Claudius splutters. Caligula is much amused.

The Giant looks at Caligula to check whether he should throw
another Senator in.
Caligula nods. The Giant throws another Senator in. They repeat
this until all the Senators are in the water.

CALIGULA
(shouts)
Tell the Senate I am coming!

61. EXT. FORUM - DAY

Shots of Crowds. "British" Prisoners. Caligula stands on a
chariot, wearing a uniform of fantastic sea shells, and a
conqueror's wreath. With him is the Giant. The People seem
delighted. Senators, however, in front of the Senate House,
look very alarmed. Caligula distributes handfuls of shells.

62. INT. PALACE DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Caligula enters on Incitatus. The horse has a toga and golden
beard. Dismounts and takes his place between Caesonia and
Claudius. The Butler leads Incitatus to his place. Chaerea
lies next to Longinus. The Giant is near Caligula.

CALIGULA
(to all guests)
In commemoration of our success in Britain,
the Senate has kindly paid for this most
beautiful statue...

Caligula draws back the veils from a gold statue, on a plinth of himself standing in military posture with a huge erection. The guests stare in astonishment and shock.

CALIGULA

Aren't I beautiful?

All the Guests start cheering. Caligula stands on the erect prick and kisses himself. The Guests are wildly embarrassed but carry on applauding. Caligula takes his seat.

CALIGULA

There was never such a triumph! I am greater than Julius Caesar, aren't I, Claudius?

Claudius has been tucking into his food. Mouth full:

CLAUDIUS

Oh? Yes. Much greater...yes...yes..

CALIGULA

(at large)

While all you senators were living safely here in Rome, your emperor was risking his life to preserve and enlarge the empire.

They exchange a glance; but say nothing. Music plays.

PRESAW GYRO

Piece of mimicry - mockery of a state dinner.

Caligula takes his glass.

Everybody follows suit.

Caligula tosses a grape up in the air and catches it in the mouth. Everybody follows suit - as he repeats this - so that grapes are flying all over the place.

He stands - everybody follows suit.

Caligula likes this game.

He sits down - everybody follows suit.

He stands up again.

He begins to walk - everybody follows suit. They all walk after him.

He starts running.

Everybody runs.

In a circle.

At first he seems to be pursued, then he becomes the pursuer.

He laughs like a madman.

He goes back to sit.

Everybody follows suit.

He sits - cross-legged, smiling.

Caligula finally jumps on the table and acts the monkey - chattering, swinging his arms, scratching his armpits. All the guests follow. Caligula winks at Caesonia.

CALIGULA

Cowards! Monkeys!

The 'entertainment' follows: Music, Dancing, Allegorical Cards. Many of the Guests are becoming drunk and lecherous. The dinner is turning into a classical Roman orgy. Caligula looks on with contempt. He is getting drunk.

CALIGULA

Look at them...

Caesonia has been watching him with concern.

CAESONIA

You are making yourself hated.

CALIGULA

Let them hate me, so long as they fear me. Quote, unquote.

CAESONIA

They are Senators...Consuls...important men...

CALIGULA

So important they approve all I do.
They say nothing. They're all mad.
They must be mad. I don't know what
else to do to provoke them. I hate them...

The Giant tries to amuse Caligula with tricks; Caligula smiles

but is not distracted. Caesonia has found an omen in the food. A pigeon with two hearts. Caligula sees this.

CALIGULA

What does that mean?

Caesonia shakes her head.

CAESONIA

Watch Chaerea.

CALIGULA

Why?

CAESONIA

You should have seen the way he was looking at you.

CALIGULA

I think he intends to kill me.

Caligula looks menacingly at Chaerea and Longinus, then abruptly bursts into loud laughter.

CHAEREA

What is so amusing, Caesar?

CALIGULA

Just a thought.

CHAEREA

May I ask what thought?

CALIGULA

All I have to do is nod my head and both your throats will be cut. Right here at dinner.

Longinus shrinks; Chaerea is impassive.

CHAEREA

That is the emperor's privilege.

CALIGULA

(to Claudius)

What's all this nonsense about a secret plot against me? A Plot is always secret. If it's not secret then it's not a plot but a plan. That is logical, is it not, Claudius? Even a half-wit can see that. And you are a half-wit.

CLAUDIUS

Half of me is, Caesar.

Claudius giggles - trying to avoid confrontation.

CALIGULA

(to Longinus)

When is the next Consular election?

LONGINUS

In two weeks, Divine Caesar.

Caligula climbs on to the statue - standing on the prick.
Silence from the Guests.

CALIGULA

In two weeks I shall select as Consul the worthiest of all Roman subjects.

Caligula looks at Incitatus, who continues munching oats.
The ruling class of Rome is deeply shocked and stunned.
CAMERA pans from silent face to silent face.

63. EXT. STEPS OF SENATE - DAY

Caligula stands beside the horse Incitatus, the horse is garbed as a consul. The crowd is much amused. The Senators in the doorway are furious but mask their emotions as best as they can. Behind Caligula is the Giant.

CALIGULA

All hail, Incitatus! Consul-designate of Rome!

The Crowd cheers delightedly.

CALIGULA

The new consul will now address the Senate.

Incitatus farts and shits. Caligula applauds. Everyone applauds except Chaerea, who stands expressionless before the Guards. Caligula with dignity, leads the horse into the Senate house. As he leads it in, the crowd laughs and cheers.

CROWD

Hail Caesar!

54. APPIAN WAY - SUNSET - EXT.

The Appian way goes through pine trees and funeral monuments. Caligula and Longinus and the Giant share a chariot drawn by Incitatus.

Behind the chariot a long row of Senators on foot. They puff and pant trying to keep up but one by one the Senators collapse.

CALIGULA

(to Longinus)

All who fail to finish the course are guilty of treason.

Whenever one of them gives up Caligula makes a sign to Longinus who writes the name on a tablet. - MATHEMATIC AT SCRIVEN E

CALIGULA

Senator Piso...he is lying down...
he has failed me...he has failed Rome.

LONGINUS

(writing)

Yes, Divine Caesar.

CALIGULA

There goes Senator Aponius.

LONGINUS
(repeating)
Aponius.

CALIGULA
Senator Galba...Senator Marcellus...
Senator...

Caligula stops after about one mile and waits for the surviving Senators. Then says:

CALIGULA
We shall confiscate the entire estate
of anyone found guilty of treason.
The Chancellor will now read out the
list of those indicted for treason.

Longinus grimly comes forward, the tablet in his hand.

LONGINUS
Indictments for treason have been made
against the following senators...

The names are those of the Senators who could not complete the run.

LONGINUS
Senator Piso...Senator Aponius...
Senator Galba...Senator Marcellus...

Caligula watches the Senators with the intensity of a young wolf studying a flock of sheep.

LONGINUS (O.S.)
Senator Antonius...Senator Cassius...

65. EXT. FORUM NIGHT

Caligula suffers from insomnia. He walks alone.
CAMERA with him. A waning moon is in the sky.
He looks haunted, wretched. At a distance the Giant follows,

watching him anxiously. Caligula stops and looks at a golden statue of himself. Whispers to it.

CALIGULA
What would you do...if you were
me?

Caligula walks on. Stops, and raises his arms to the moon.

CALIGULA
Moon...sister! Is Drusilla there?
(listens. Caligula drops his
arms)
You never answer. You don't exist.

66. INT. SENATE - NIGHT

Caligula goes into the Senate House. Looks around. He is utterly disillusioned with the imperial power and its symbols.

Hot salty tears run down his checks. He lets out a silent scream of rage and despair.

67. INT. CALIGULA'S BEDROOM

Caesonia sits alone. Caligula comes in, looking exhausted, desolate.

CAESONIA
You need sleep.

CALIGULA

I think I shall have to resign myself
to living forever.

CAESONIA

I hope you do.

CALIGULA

Yes, but I'm going bald...

CAESONIA

You're not.

CALIGULA

You've never been able to face the facts,
have you?

CAESONIA

The facts?

(smiles)

Yes, my Lord.

(looks at him)

Can you?

CALIGULA

I need sleep.

CAESONIA

I need you.

She comes to Caligula. She embraces him and licks away the
tears on his cheeks. He looks at her - touches her face -
tries to explain.

CALIGULA

Anarchy is better than tyranny

The bird flies into the room. It beats around the walls and
ceiling. Caesonia jumps back, alarmed.
Caligula looks at the bird. Smiles. Comforts Caesonia.

68. EXT. STADIUM - DAY - OVERCAST SKY

In the center of the stadium a stage has been built. On the stage are Egyptian sun symbols, death symbols, the key of life, etc. At the moment everything is haphazard: a rehearsal is in progress. The stadium itself is empty except for the Twenty or Thirty Actors and Workmen who are involved in staging the passion play of Osiris and Isis.

At center stage stand Caligula and Caesonia. Caligula wears his usual tunic but on his head is the crown of Upper Egypt; a ceremonial beard has been clipped to his chin. He has been painted a ghastly gray...the color of Osiris in death. Caesonia wears the gown of the goddess Isis and the head-dress. The Giant is watching them. Claudius, in a side, is playing dice.

In the Imperial Box, in the distance, can be seen Chaerea with Longinus and Proculus. They watch the spectacle.

CALIGULA

Do you know your lines?

CAESONIA

Yes...I feel I am the goddess Isis.

CALIGULA

And I am Osiris...I shall be cut into bits.

CAESONIA

But I collect all your pieces. And put you together...

Caesonia holds up a hamper with mock arms, legs in it.

Then she strikes a hieratic posture.

CAESONIA

Long have I wandered in the land of men, far from Heaven and my love the sun...

A grip by mistake breaks a blood bladder.

Revoaute

The blood splurts on the stage.

The Giant is furious.
Caligula calms him.

CALIGULA
It's only a show.

Caligula waves to Chaerea and the conspirators in the Imperial Box.

69. INT. IMPERIAL BOX

From Chaerea's POV the figures of the actors are like dolls.
With him is Longinus.

CHAEREA
As he goes to dinner...

LONGINUS
He's waving at us!

CHAEREA
Wave back.

Chaerea waves - Longinus cannot manage it.

Longinus turns toward the back of the Imperial Box.
There is an open place where Guards stand on either side of a long, dim corridor that goes beneath the Palace.

LONGINUS
Are they all with us?

Chaerea nods, grimly.

CHAEREA
Proculeius will ask the password and then...

LONGINUS

I know. I know.

70. EXT. STADIUM - DAY

A nurse approaches the Players on the stage; she leads the four-year old Julie, daughter of Caligula and Caesonia.

CAESONIA

Immortal source of like...

CALIGULA

Here's the child. Time to eat...

Caligula swings off the stage, as the Giant helps Caesonia down. Caligula picks up Julia. The child is amused by the beard.

JULIA

That looks funny...

CALIGULA

Funny? I am Osiris, God of the Dead
and the very best actor in Rome!

Caligula gives the Child a terrible scowl which delights her. She pulls off the beard.

The Giant surveys the scene anxiously.

71. EXT. IMPERIAL BOX - DAY

Caligula, Caesonia, Julia and the Giant are about to enter the passageway. Suddenly a dozen boy dancers and a dancing master appear.

DANCING MASTER

The dancers from Troy, Divine Caesar...

CALIGULA

Troy? Oh, yes...Uh are they ready now?

DANCING MASTER

Yes, Divine Caesar.

72. INT. PASSAGEWAY

Chaerea and Longinus and Proculus now stand some distance back from the entrance. They can see Caligula and his party, talking to the dancing master. They exchange nervous glances.

73. EXT. IMPERIAL BOX

CALIGULA

Then we'll see your dancers tonight...

Dancing master and boys go toward the stadium.

CALIGULA

(to Giant)

Do you know my dance?

The Giant tries to stop Caligula, but he smiles, kisses him holds him, then goes on dancing. Caligula enters the passageway. Directly behind them come Caesonia, Julia and the child's nurse.

Caligula's dance has now led to where the Guard is standing at attention sword drawn. Proculus steps forward; blocks Caligula's passage.

PROCULUS

The password.

CALIGULA

Scrotum.

Chaerea is now at Caligula's back. Chaerea draws his sword.

CHAEREA

So be it.

Chaerea aims to decapitate Caligula but, as he strikes Caligula turns and Chaerea only cuts Caligula's jaw. The Giant leaps to his defence but is cut down by two guards,

The Guards at the Imperial Box push past the terrified boy dancers.

Two Guards seize Caesonia. A third takes the child Julia.

For an instant Caligula is stunned by the blow. Blood streams down his face. Then Caligula starts to run down the corridor. But Proculus keeps pace with him.

Proculus stabs Caligula in the chest.

Caligula is like a wolf at bay, But oddly triumphant... and grinning. He staggers backward - in his dancing step.

CALIGULA

I live!

One of the Guards stabs Caesonia; she falls dead.

A Guard picks up Julia and swings her - bashing her head on the wall.

Chaerea stabs Caligula again. Caligula falls. Then he begins to crawl along the floor.

CALIGULA

(a shout)

I still live!

Chaerea hurries toward Caligula, sword drawn. Caligula is now struggling to get to his feet. He is half erect, when, Chaerea viciously slashes his crotch. Caligula howls with pain. Then Longinus stabs again.

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i 2 ragazzi vivono in un convento. ^{in un convento} vogliono entrambi vivere con fedeltà ma
però hanno entrambi 2 diverse attitudini; come uno è rigido,
l'altro è esuberante. L'educazione è molto rigida, e un
ragazzo fa fatica ad abituarsi.

i 2 sono molto amici e molto diversi dai coetanei, quindi
poco tollerati.

Durante le giornate di convento, ~~ma~~ il ragazzo ~~fa una~~ ~~Scop-~~
~~pietosa~~, comincia ad avere un turbamento alla vista di una
ragazza.

Comincia a fuggire di notte a amare e poi ritornare al convento.
Nessuno si avolge di queste sue azioni anche se si vede una
certa differenza nel suo comportamento. Solo l'amico

capisce la situazione. Ma lo convince a lasciare il convento

Una notte, lui prende la decisione e se ne va, decide di fare il
pittore. Va da un pittore e qui chiede di poter lavorare

nel suo atelier. Entra nello studio e qui conosce una
donna più anziana di lui che lo seduce, rimandandoci
una volta sedotta. Insieme vivono intensamente.

Esplorano insieme il mondo dei giovani, dei coetanei
del ragazzo. È una grande passione. Ma un giorno

la donna lo lascia, e lui si ritrova dispiato.

Incontra l'amico che nel frattempo è diventato
dissodato che lo accoglie a braccia aperte come un amico
ritornato. Insieme si ritrovano nei luoghi delle
loro infanzia, adolescenza. Uno è equilibrato e armonico

l'altro è rimasto divorato dalla vita, ma è diventato
artista, lo ha superato e dipinge; dipinge una
donna in un'immagine che desidera lo mostri,

in fuga dal convento e rimane un
demente una manifestazione.